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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1873. NO. 117.

FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Bills Reported and Read in Place in the Senate—House Not in Session.

Special to the Pittsburg Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 24, 1873.

SENATE.

Petitions were presented as follows:

By Mr. Graham—For the repeal of the charter of the East Liberty plank road company.

By Mr. Wallace—To prevent the importation of Chinese.

The following bills were reported from committees:

Appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars to the Harrisburg Lunatic Asylum, to replace wash house and machinery destroyed by fire. Passed.

Act regulating license and other fees paid by foreign insurance companies.

Supplement to Shoe and Leather Bank of Pittsburgh.

To incorporate the Indiana County Bank.

To incorporate the Hoboken Real Estate Savings Bank of Pittsburgh, with amendment.

The act to apply the Local Option law to McKeesport was negatived.

Bills were read as follows:

By Mr. Graham—To incorporate the Compound Trust Bank of Pittsburgh, with Thomas Steel, Wm. Phillips, James Murray, R. W. Mackey, C. L. Magee, H. W. Oliver, Jr., and others as corporators; capital stock $100,000, with power to increase to $500,000.

By Mr. Fitch—Act to provide for the filing of receipts in part payment of mortgages in the Recorder's office of the different counties in the Commonwealth.

By Mr. Playford—To incorporate the Dar Savings Bank of Connellsville.

The Speaker laid the report of the Dollar Savings Bank before the Senate.

Adjourned until Monday evening.

The House was not in session.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 22, 1873.

In the Senate, to-day, a few local bills were read in place and a few bills called up and passed; among which was the *bill to prevent the emptying of carcasses of dead animals into the rivers of Allegheny county* or their tributaries, and a *bill to change the height of the bridge over the Youghiogheny, at McKeesport*, from sixty to forty feet above low water mark.

The most of the time of the Senate was occupied with the Senate bill to incorporate a new bridge company at Oil City. The stockholders of the old bridge company are opposed to it as encroaching upon their rights. Mr. McClure's amendment, requiring the contract to be given out within six months, and the bridge to be finished within six months thereafter, the contractors to give bond to be approved by the Court of Venango county, was amended by Mr. McKinley, by extending the time to twelve months in each case, and requiring the contract to be approved by the Board of Directors, and a proviso added that it shall not be used for a railroad bridge, except for passenger railways. In this shape the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Graham offered a proviso that the new bridge should not be nearer to the old than sixteen hundred feet, which was not agreed to. The bill was then passed. There will be a keen fight over it in the House, I am told.

In the House, only one hundred and ninety bills were read in place, and seventy-seven of these were from Allegheny county. It would take a column or two of the COMMERCIAL to give merely the titles of these bills, to say nothing of their contents. They all went to their proper committees, and there will be a better opportunity, hereafter, to classify and explain them. The titles, as sent by telegraph, will generally indicate their purport.

It is to the credit of both Houses that neither shows any disposition to hurry through these bills. There is, on the contrary, a determination to watch closely all details of legislation, and not to permit any bill to go through until carefully examined. Whether this will continue, remains yet to be seen.

The first official act of Gov. Hartranft was to withdraw the nomination, sent in to the Senate last week, by Gov. Geary, for confirmation, of T. C. McDowell, as Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of Labor and Mining, and to send in its stead the nomination for that place of Thomas J. Higham, of Allegheny. Mr. McClure was in favor of proceeding at once to the confirmation of Mr. Higham's nomination, and so was the Senate generally; but Mr. Petriken was in doubt as to whether the Governor has power to withdraw a nomination once made, and as the rules of the Senate require nominations to lie over five days, a single objection carried it over.

As to the right of the Governor to withdraw a nomination before it is confirmed or, I do not see how it can be questioned successfully. The President has done it frequently, and the United States Senate has conceded the right without question; and as the principle of appointment is the same in both cases, what has been conceded at Washington can hardly be disputed here.

The nomination of Mr. Bigham is, in itself, so great an improvement on that of McDowell, that the Senate cannot hesitate in having to choose between them. No one disputes Mr. B.'s eminent fitness for the place, and I am much gratified to know that it has fallen to his lot. The readers of the COMMERCIAL will generally agree with me in wishing his speedy confirmation, and in regarding the appointment not merely as a fit one, in all respects, but as a decided and well-deserved compliment to Allegheny county.

The appointment of Mr. Quay as Secretary of the Commonwealth, and that of Hon. Samuel E. Dimmick, of Wayne, as Attorney-General, are well received by every one. Mr. Quay's experience thoroughly qualifies him for the serious duties of his place, and I know him well enough to predict, confidently, that he will make a faithful and popular officer. Mr. Dimmick is one of the foremost lawyers of the State, modest, unassuming and courteous, and with the highest reputation for integrity and ability. *The Governor has made a wise choice, and one that reflects credit upon his judgment.* The Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth has not yet been announced.

Mr. Dimmick is a member of the Constitutional Convention, elected on the ticket at large, and his appointment will necessitate his resignation of his seat in that body.

SPECIAL.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 24, 1873.

TWEED'S TRIAL—TESTIMONY OF KEYSER.

In the Tweed case to-day John H. Keyser testified he did the plumbing work for the city in 1870. In making up bills for the Board of Audit, County Auditor Watson caused them to be enlarged 33⅓ per cent. He never attended before the Board of Audit; never saw Tweed sign his name on the bills; never had any transactions with the Board, nor had he any one to represent him there. didn't know how to verify his bills, but sent *them in correct.* Witness here identified as forgeries indorsements on warrants purporting to be his signature. On cross-examination witness said he added the 33⅓ per cent. to cover his troubles and delay in collecting his bills, but judging from occurrences didn't expect to get any of the amount.

John L. Everett, cashier of the Broadway Bank, testified that the books of tickets used by Woodward in depositing in 1870 had disappeared since the examination of the books by S. J. Tilden. Witness had no knowledge of the correctness of the accounts of Parker, teller, and Smith, book-keeper, examined. The latter testified the deposit of tickets couldn't be found when the books were examined by Tilden in 1870, but believed they were afterwards.

Mr. Peckham here called upon the defendant to produce his bank book, as required, but he decided not to do so.

After recess Samuel J. Tilden was sworn and testified to the examination made by him and others of the accounts of Ingersoll & Co., and Garvey & Co., in the Broadway Bank, previously published. Adjourned.

Supposed Murder at Youngstown, Ohio—Dwelling Burned—Miners' Strike.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, January 24, 1873.

Isaac Havard, an engineer at the Valley rolling mill, was found early this morning lying under the trestle work near Himrod furnace, badly mangled. From tracks of blood down the hill it is supposed he was beaten and carried down there as a blind. He died this evening.

A dwelling house on Main street, owned by Mrs. Powell, was burned early this morning. Loss about $1,000; insured for $800 in the Alps of Erie, Pa. Part of the furniture was saved. The cause of fire is unknown.

The coal miners' strike still continues. The operators are successfully introducing colored miners from Richmond, Va., to take the strikers' places.

Woman Suffragists Indicted for Illegal Voting.

ALBANY, January 24.—Indictments have been found by the Grand Jury of the United States District Court, in session here, against Susan B. Anthony and fifteen other ladies, charging them with voting illegally in Rochester. They are to appear before the Court in that city in May next. Indictments have also been found against the three inspectors who received their votes.

The Next Governor of Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CHILLICOTHE, OHIO, January 24, 1873.

There is a general movement among the Republicans in Southern Ohio to urge the name of John T. Wilson, of Adams county, present member of Congress from the Eleventh district, as the next Republican candidate for Governor.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER.

COMING TO FINE POINTS.

Oakes Ames Cross-Examined by Judge Kelly and Mr. Colfax.

Highly Interesting Colloquies.

WASHINGTON, January 24.—At the sitting of Poland's Credit Mobilier Committee this morning, the representative of Hon. Wm. D. Kelley cross-examined Oakes Ames. The witness reiterated his testimony that he held as property of Kelley ten shares of Credit Mobilier stock. They became Kelley's property in 1868, when he paid for them. The dividends witness also held for Kelley; he also held for him ten shares of Union Pacific stock, which came into his hands early in 1868. Altogether, witness holds forty or fifty shares of Union Pacific stock, and some income bonds, which belong to Kelley. Besides Credit Mobilier stock, witness holds for Kelley thirty or forty shares of Union Pacific stock and some income bonds.

Mr. Kelley then examined Ames as follows:

Question—Can you furnish the committee with a list of the property you hold for me? Answer—Yes, sir. I think I can by to-morrow.

Question—How did I pay you for the Credit Mobilier stock? Answer—In the first place you were to pay me $1,000 for stock and interest.

Question—Did I ask you for Credit Mobilier stock, or did you ask me to take it? Answer—I don't remember now; but I know you took it. Had loaned Kelley money prior to Credit Mobilier transaction.

Question—How soon can you deliver my ten shares of Credit Mobilier stock and dividends. Answer—[Producing a certificate of Credit Mobilier stock from his pocket.] I can deliver them now, sir, and the dividends you can have soon after.

Mr. Kelley—Hand them to the chairman, with list of dividends, for my use.

Mr. Ames—Handing the certificates to Judge Poland]—If you say you don't own them, I don't see how you are entitled to dividends.

Mr. Kelley—But you say I do own them, and I intend to make use of them.

Mr. Ames—*Certainly, sir; that is what I agree to pay.*

Question—*When I receive these from the chairman, will I or not, be your debtor?* Answer—Yes, for $750.

Question—How does that come? Answer—If you receive all the dividends, and I don't take my pay, you will owe me $750, which I loaned you. The Credit Mobilier stock was all paid for by the first dividend of bonds and the cash dividend in June following.

Question—Did you enter hold me the check marked W. D. K.? Answer—Yes, sir.

Question—Were there any other checks except those marked W. D. K. and S. C.? Answer—Yes, sir.

Question—How many? Answer—I can't tell. I see J. F. Wilson indorsed his and Patterson indorsed his.

Mr. Ames to Mr. Kelley—You, don't deny having received $343, do you? Mr. Kelley—No, sir. I don't deny having received the check alluded to by Mr. Ames. I cannot remember of having received it, and I do not believe I received it. To the best of my knowledge and belief I believe I did not receive it. I have always regarded the loan the amounts I received from Ames.

Mr. Ames—Didn't you ask me repeatedly when you would get any more dividends on that stock? Answer—Sir, I did not ask a member of giving Ames a note or receipt.

Question by Mr. Ames—What was said when I handed you $207. Answer—Recollect I said I had asked you a few days before for a loan.

Mr. Ames said that Kelley had asked him about dividends in stock.

N. G. Ordway, Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, was re-called, and explained as to how the business of his office was conducted, private accounts and the like. They all went in mentioned as they frequently sent drafts home, &c. He produced his books, and under date of June 24th, 1868, pointed out an entry of $329 paid on check, marked "W. D. K." and signed "Oakes Ames." He also produced the check, and testified that he believed it was in the handwriting of Ames.

Judge Kelley denied that he had had a meeting with Colfax, Patterson and Garfield last evening to determine upon the course they should pursue to-day down the testimony of Ames. Mr. Colfax, he stated, left the city at ten o'clock yesterday for Trenton, New Jersey.

Moses Dillon and Thos. B. Cheney, clerks in the office of the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, were examined as to checks and entries. The former was chief clerk of the office. He testified that he would have paid a check marked W. D. K. or S. C. to Ames, if he had handed it in. Ames made a deposit of $10,000 to his private account in June, 1868.

Mr. Ames—Will you turn to the book and see if the check for $332 is charged to Colfax. Witness—It is, but I see nothing to the credit of his account except mileage and salary. Saw no credit to the account of Colfax of the $1,200 check.

L. L. Crounse, correspondent of the New York *Times*, was the next witness. He testified that he had quite a number of conversations with Mr. Ames on the subject of this investigation—at least five or six times. Had a conversation with him about the seventh day of January; thought it was after Colfax made his statement to the committee.

Question by Mr. Colfax—Did he say he heard my statement? Answer—I think he did. I am not certain. As I alluded to the statement myself, I got the impression that he had heard it.

Question—What did he say? Answer—We had a general conversation, and I called his attention to the fact that your statement did not agree with his testimony on the previous morning. In response he made a general remark, and believe he said he had no record, but always carried in his head these matters. I think he said he presumed Colfax was about correct. I did not understand him to say he carried things in his head entirely. My recollection is that he said "probably correct." He said nothing about $1,200.

Mr. Ames—Did I tell you Colfax's statement was substantially or probably correct? Answer—I think so. I think you said "probably correct."

Mr. Ames—I said nothing of the kind.

Mr. Crounse—I am not sure that I will have to withdraw my confidence in the statements you made in regard to others.

Mr. Ames—In your dispatches to yesterday's *Times* did you state the facts as they occurred before the committee? They were a direct contradiction of testimony. That is all I know. Is that the character of your dispatches?

Mr. Crounse—My dispatches to the *Times* have been very fair.

Mr. Ames—Yes, generally. But that one yesterday was very unfair and very untruthful.

Judge Poland—Where was this conversation with Ames? Answer—I think it was at his seat in the House. Witness inferred from what Ames said that he had kept no record of the transaction between himself and Colfax.

Question—Now what is your recollection as to the precise words Ames used? Answer—My best recollection is that he used the words "probably correct."

Mr. Ames—Well, this is no proof in the case, as far as I can see, either for or against.

Judge Poland to Mr. Ames—If you desire to make a statement in reference to the conversations between yourself and Crounse you can do so now. Mr. Ames—Oh, I had no conversation with him. It was a mere casual conversation with him. I did not say five words. I don't remember of saying anything to him about Colfax.

Judge Poland—You knew he was a newspaper reporter? Answer—Yes sir.

Mr. Kelley to Mr. Ames—Do the ten shares of Credit Mobilier stock, placed in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee, subject to my order, bear any portion of the dividends under the Oakes Ames contract? Mr. Ames—Yes sir; they are entitled to all the dividends.

Mr. Kelley—I desire to say, Mr. Chairman, that you will please hold them to my order.

Mr. Colfax inquired of Ames why he did not cross-examine him about that check when he gave his testimony.

Mr. Ames—I did not want to bring it out. I wanted to let your light do as easily as I could. I was in hopes it would not come out.

Mr. Ames to Mr. Colfax—Did you receive the $1,200? Mr. Colfax—I did not.

Mr. Colfax then requested Mr. Ames to produce his private memorandum book.

Mr. Ames replied he did not have it with him, but had refreshed his memory during the recess and brought with him such extracts from it as he thought necessary. Mr. Ames then read therefrom entries showing the amounts paid to various members, which were put in evidence on Wednesday.

Mr. Colfax—In conversation at Wormley's did I not tell you I had never received any dividends. Answer—I don't recollect.

Mr. Niblack suggested that the investigation was involving the character of a number of gentlemen, and if all this questioning was to continue, he hoped the gentlemen accused would be allowed counsel.

Judge Poland—Well, if we have lawyers here we will have to go all over the matter again.

Mr. Colfax—Mr. Ames, in your private memorandum book, (which I hope the committee will have brought here), have you the names of members of Congress whom you let have stock? Answer—Yes, sir.

Question—Will you tell me when you made that check which you say you paid me payable to S. C., and when you made the one you say you gave to Allison, payable to W. B. Allison? Answer—I can't say for some of the dividends I did not put in any names.

Question—Did I give you any receipt for this check? Answer—No sir; it never belonged to me.

Question—Have you ever told me, during the past four years, that I was the owner of this stock? Answer—I don't know whether I did or not. I know if anybody has told me in the last four years that I own my own hat. [Laughter.] I do not understand your version of the affair at all. I gave you the check, and here is proof of it by the books. What is the use of trying to get around it or over it?

Mr. Colfax—Where was I when you gave me the check, in the chair or on the floor? Mr. Ames—Oh, I don't know. I can't remember that.

Mr. Colfax, to the Committee—I repeat, exactly as I stated before, that I never received a dollar on any account from the Credit Mobilier. I never saw this check, and don't know whether it was signed by O. Ames or Oakes Ames. Why he made this check payable to S. C., I cannot imagine. I could not have added to my income $1,200 without remembering something about it. During the whole of this four years he has never proposed to pay me anything, and never told me I was the owner of stock. I told Ames I would not buy into a law suit, and that ended the matter between us.

Mr. Ames—The check for $332 74 completed your payment for stock.

Judge Poland to Mr. Colfax—Do you admit that you gave him a check for $332 74? Mr. Colfax—I suppose so. I thought at the time I was paying him $500, my purchase and interest, but did not understand that this completed the transaction. I understood that dividends had been earned and were unadjusted, and would go to make up the balance due from me, but did not understand that they completed the purchase. He did not remember of Ames saying anything about selling bonds. When the $500 were paid by witness he had the impression that the proceeds from these bonds would go to complete the purchase. He supposed he did pay Ames the $332 by check on the Sergeant-at-Arms, but was confident that he never received any check for $1,200 from Ames, either payable to S. C. or Schuyler Colfax, or any amount whatever. He supposed the check marked S. C. was some memorandum of Ames by which he settled the matter, after he (Colfax) told him he would have nothing to do with the stock, and would not buy into a law suit. He had never received a certificate of stock, and no proceeds from it. He had endeavored, since he had been Speaker of the House and Vice President of the United States, to make his salary and private income pay his bills, and he had been in the habit of making every month or two a statement of his financial conditions, but had never preserved these statements. If the committee would examine the checks in the Ocean National Bank, where he kept his account, they would see that he always wrote his name on the back of checks without being asked whether payable to order or bearer. The singularity about this matter was that Ames stated this check was payable to S. C., and others received checks payable in their name.

Mr. Ames—Mr. Colfax, did I not render you a statement of the sale of bonds received as dividends, and you gave me that $332 check for the balance due? Mr. Colfax—No, sir; *there might have been a statement of the kind*, but *there is no sum of $332 due; I am not certain about that.*

Mr. Ames—I ask you if I did not give you a statement showing a credit derived from the sale of bonds.

Mr. Colfax—I deny it.

Mr. Ames—I am sorry to hear you.

Mr. Colfax—You told me some dividends had been earned, but were unadjusted.

Mr. Ames—If he denies it, and says he did not, I don't want to ask him any more questions. That is enough for me.

Mr. Colfax read from the former testimony of Ames, as to the payment for the stock when he said, "I do not know whether he or I own the stock?"

Mr. Ames—I understood you owned it and wanted me to own it.

Mr. Ames further testified that he called on Colfax the night before he (Ames) made his first statement before the committee, and asked him (Colfax) if they understood each other. Mr. Colfax replied he will testify to the truth, and he (Ames) replied: "Certainly, I am going to do that." He now supposed that Colfax had got an idea from the testimony of Crounse that Ames was going to testify the same as Colfax.

Mr. Colfax again read from the testimony of Ames and Kelley, to show that the former, on parts of his testimony, then, agree with what he had testified since? Mr. Ames—I have refreshed my memory since from my books and I don't think you can swear hard enough here to get out of it, either. I remember all now and have the vouchers.

Mr. Colfax, to Judge Poland—I rest the case, sir.

The committee adjourned until to-morrow.

N. G. Ordway, recalled, took the stand.

The Wilson Investigating Committee to-day were in secret session several hours. At two o'clock they resumed the examination of Oliver Ames. He testified that the sum of $128,000 was set apart for special legal expenses, but had not the least idea how the money was used; never heard that any Member of Congress ever received any of the money; was never in Washington while legislation was pending on the subject of the Union Pacific Road.

The witness was examined at length. He supposed the money for special legal services was furnished for the purpose of securing a favorable legislation, but could give no information as to who paid the money, or to whom it was paid. Gen. Dodge and Oakes Ames were here in the interest of the road at the time of the legislation referred to, and in these gentlemen he had confidence. Mr. Ames then produced the ledgers had always looked to Oakes Ames to look after Pacific Railroad matters at Washington, and believed he would do what was necessary for the interest of the road. The witness said a note for two millions was given by the Union Pacific Road to the Credit Mobilier under the Hoxie contract. Put them all under the head, and if paid the proceeds would go to the stockholders of the Credit Mobilier.

The attention of the House being called to the entry on the Pacific Railroad books, giving credit for about one million dollars to the Credit Mobilier, witness said this money was advanced by the Credit Mobilier on account of the Ames contract. The entire control of the Union Pacific Railroad Company was turned over to a Board of Trustees of the Credit Mobilier.

The committee adjourned till this evening.

At the evening session the witness said he knew nothing of the Credit Mobilier stock in trust in the winter of 1867 and '68; he did not know to whom it was sold, except from what he had been told since. Mr. Ames, of Congress. At the time Oakes Ames took stock there was great difficulty in selling it. He (the witness) was led like a lamb to the slaughter, when he took with Oakes Ames a large number of shares. Ames mentioned the names of several members of Congress whom he wished to take stock, among them Colfax, Boutwell and Wilson, but I do not distinctly recollect other names. We wanted to get a good class of people in the road who did not expect any legislation; had obtained all we thought necessary. Witness had an idea that Oakes Ames disposed of stock in the way that had just come out. Witness did not know how it happened that the stock was sold at par, when it was worth $1 60, and had received dividends, replied that at the time the arrangements were made that his brother should have stock it was not much above par. This was at the time the capital stock was increased.

CORRUPT GOVERNMENT DIRECTOR.

The Chairman—Have you knowledge of any bonds, stocks or any other thing of value having been given by persons connected, either with the Credit Mobilier or Union Pacific Railroad Company, to any officer of the government for procuring the acceptance of the road or any part thereof? Answer—I heard from Snyder, Superintendent of the road, that he paid Cornelius Wendell, a government commissioner, $25,000 for accepting the road. This was in 1866 or '67. Wendell having been appointed by President Johnson. He was paid in money. Snyder said Wendell came there and declared he would not accept the road unless he were paid for doing so. Snyder, on his own volition, and without authority from me, paid the $25,000. When I settled Snyder's account, he said he paid the money under the authority of Dr. Durant. Snyder retained the money when paid out of freight receipts. Wendell was making a raid in behalf of a Washington paper, and what he did was a blackmailing operation. At that time we were putting on the road such cars and locomotives as the business required. Snyder was Superintendent of the road pretty much during its construction, but is not at the present time.

During the examination witness said Dr. Durant was Vice President of the company. At the time the money was paid, witness did not know, nor had he heard of any other commissioner having been paid; knew of no member of Congress, except General Butler, having been paid as counsel of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. At the time of the conflict between Jim Fisk and the company he was paid $5,000. Was told that a member of Congress who rendered service to the Credit Mobilier or to its seven trustees.

The committee adjourned until Monday.

Further From the Seat of the Modoc War.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 24.—The men wounded in the late fight with the Modocs are doing well, and there are no further deaths. General Wheaton established his headquarters at Lone Tree, and will commence active operations on the arrival of reinforcements. He has detachments stationed to prevent the savages raiding on the settlements. Much excitement was created to-day at Yreka by the report that a Modoc scout was seen in that vicinity. The report is pronounced unfounded. Nothing has been heard from the troops which left this city on Monday night.

Weather Peculiarities.

WATERVILLE, ME., January 24.—A heavy snow storm, accompanied by very sharp lightning, prevails here.

WISCASSET, ME., January 24.—A brisk shower of hail, accompanied by heavy thunder and sharp lightning, occurred here this evening. The thermometer stood at eight degrees above zero.

Demise of Muskingum Valley Millers.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO, January 24, 1873.

William C. Cassel, a prominent business man and millier, died last night. This death, on Sunday, takes from us two of the most extensive millers in the Muskingum valley.

An Iowa father with three marriageable daughters has posted the following notice over his bell-pull: "Wood, $6 a cord; coal, 30 cents a bushel; gas dear and bad. Parties staying after 9 o'clock will please settle quarterly. N. B.—A reduction made after engagements and the full amount added to the marriage portion."

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

BORDER STATE WAR CLAIMS.

The Louisiana Investigation.

A NEW DIFFICULTY ARISES.

The Naval Appropriation

Washington Treaty Legislation.

THE INSURANCE COMPANY CLAIMS.

Cotton Tax Refunding Measure.

CREDIT MOBILIER EXCITEMENT.

Ames Further Cross-Examined.

Contradiction of Statements.

Cabinet Member From the South.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 24, 1873.

War Claims of Border State Citizens.

The House Committee on Claims passed unanimously this morning the important bill of Representative Smith, of New York, providing for the payment of property of loyal citizens in the Border States destroyed by military orders or taken for military uses during the war. Several amendments were made in the bill, the most important of which provide that instead of the Commissioners of Claims, the Court of Claims shall have jurisdiction of all claims brought under the act, that before judgments are paid definite contracts shall be averred and proved, and that all cases shall be reported to Congress. Property destroyed in battle, and of which the destruction was justifiable at common law, is excepted from the provisions of the act, and in cases where property was taken for destruction to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy the measure of damages shall be the value to the owner in its exposed condition. Claims not presented within two years from the date of the act are barred. A long report accompanies the bill, in which the legal grounds on which it is based are fully set forth, and which the committee propose to distribute among the leading lawyers of the country for consideration and suggestion.

The Boston Relief Bill.

The bill refunding duties on goods destroyed by the Boston fire still hangs fire in the Ways and Means Committee, but will probably be reported in the House early next week. The indications are favorable to the passage of the bill, but the opposition will be vigorous.

Bridge Over the Mississippi at La Crosse.

The House Committee on Commerce this morning heard the representatives of railroads centering at La Crosse, Wisconsin, in reference to the location and construction of a railroad bridge across the Mississippi at that point. The Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad seeks to change the location fixed by the War Department, which is opposed by the Chicago and Northwestern and other interested roads.

The Louisiana Investigation

made little progress in Senator Morton's committee to-day. An executive session of four hours was held, during which the effect of the decision of the Supreme Court of Louisiana yesterday upon the status and questions before the committee were strongly canvassed. Some members were inclined to hold that the decision of the State court was final, and that the committee ought not to go further into the affairs of the State, and had no power to review the judgment of its highest judicial tribunal. Finally, however, it was decided to proceed for the present and examine the claims of the rival Electoral Colleges. McMillan and Ray, contestants for Kellogg's seat in the Senate, were present during the session and expressed their views on the questions discussed. Pinchback is also in attendance, and it is stated is creating on the whole an unfavorable impression by his conduct and demeanor as a colored aspirant to honors. To-morrow the Caldwell case will be resumed.

The Naval Appropriation.

The Naval Appropriation bill, as it finally passed the House this afternoon, was amended in only two important particulars from the Committee's report. The clause extending the term at Annapolis to six years, and thereby avoiding an addition to the force of cadets resulting from the increase in the number of members of the next Congress, was rejected, and another directing surveys between the Pacific coast and Japan, with reference to the feasibility of laying a telegraph cable, was added. Owing to the efforts of Mr. Lynch yesterday a large number of sinecure offices attached to the civil list of the late navy yards during the war were abolished, and the bill as it leaves the House probably appropriates a smaller amount than any naval bill since the beginning of the war.

Insurance Company Claims on the Geneva Award.

Mr. Wm. M. Evarts made a long argument before the House Judiciary Committee to-day in favor of giving the claims of insurance companies precedence in the distribution of the Geneva award. Subsequently, General Butler introduced in the House bits bill upon the subject, reported from the Judiciary Committee, but owing to a disagreement with Sargent, of California, as to the principle contained in which the bill should be left, withdrew it, and still retains it in his possession. Had General Butler carried the point the bill might have been brought before the House at any future time by a majority vote, but this opportunity to antagonize the appropriation bill Sargent would not allow.

General Banks will endeavor to have a day fixed next week, or soon after, for the consideration of the bill providing for the execution of the fishery clauses of the Washington treaty.

The Cotton Tax.

Representative Beck's bill for refunding the cotton tax, which has been privately printed for the use of the Ways and Means Committee, provides that two-thirds of the taxes collected on cotton raised in 1866 and 1867 shall be repaid. Commissioners are to be appointed for each Judicial district to take testimony, which is to be submitted to a board of Revision Commissioners, sitting in Washington, and on whose certificates the Treasury will make payments. Appeals from the commissioners may be taken to the Court of Claims, and the decisions of that court are to be final. The salaries of the commissioners are all left blank in the bill, but if any are found to be interested in any claim pending before them they are to be liable to a fine of five thousand dollars and imprisonment for one year. It is altogether doubtful if Mr. Beck's or any similar bill can get a majority vote in the committee.

The Credit Mobilier Sensation Increasing.

The excitement over the Credit Mobilier is greater to-day than ever. In the House Committee Mr. Colfax and Representative Kelley appeared and cross-examined Ames. The latter insisted that he had paid each of them the checks in question. Both repeated their assertions of yesterday, solemnly swearing again that they had never received either the checks or the proceeds of them. Ames on his part presented sworn transcripts from his books of their accounts, and the Sergeant-at-Arms was summoned and produced the checks of the parties sworn to, and also exhibited Oakes Ames's account book in his office, which showed that on the date Ames swore he drew the dividend of ten thousand, one deposited the same, entry to that effect was made by the book-keeper. The Sergeant-at-Arms's payment of all the checks in question was entered in Ames' account. The page also contained an entry, at the same time other checks in question were paid, showing that three hundred and twenty-nine dollars was charged to John A. Logan. The committee, however, did not take the matter up to-day.

The Other Supposed Corruption.

The House this afternoon modified its action of yesterday, and divided the new labor of investigation it imposed on Judge Poland's committee, assigning to it only the inquiry relative to members connected with the Dubuque and Sioux City Road, and entrusting to the Wilson committee that concerning the affairs and construction of Central Pacific. The object of this is said to be to show that members of both Houses, other than those named in connection with the Credit Mobilier, were engaged with Oakes Ames in the construction of this road. No one, however, seems to know of any disreputable or improper connection of members with that work. It is doubtful whether the committee can press this inquiry for want of time.

Southern Representation in the Cabinet.

A caucus of Southern Senators and members has agreed, after a long and not very harmonious consultation, to unite in asking Gen. Grant to take Senator Pool, of North Carolina, into his Cabinet to represent the South. Elliott, of South Carolina, made an exceedingly discouraging speech and refused to act on the committee to call on the President. Senator Alcorn and Mr. Maynard were appointed to lay the matter before the President.

Charge Denied.

The charge in the Cincinnati *Commercial* that Oakes Ames had testified that your correspondent had been paid money in connection with subjects under investigation here, is absolutely false. The Associated Press reports of his testimony, as received in the western offices, was correct, but was very materially altered in the *Commercial* office. What Ames did testify to was that he had received his first information of money having been paid to certain persons from newspaper correspondence, that of your correspondent among others.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 24, 1873.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

J. C. Bancroft Davis has been nominated for Assistant Secretary of State, in place of Hale, resigned.

PROF. TILDEN ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Dr. W. C. Tilden, Professor of Chemistry in the Howard University, was accidentally shot in the National Hotel last night by a ball from a pistol which fell from the pocket of G. C. Wall. The ball entered his abdomen, making a very serious wound. It is thought Tilden will recover.

BILLS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President to-day approved the following acts of Congress: An act to abolish the grades of Admiral and Vice Admiral in the United States navy; an act to provide for the erection of a public building at Nashville, Tennessee; an act transferring the control of certain Territorial penitentiaries to the several Territories in which the same are located; an act to fix the time for holding the annual session of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

CENSUS OF THE INDIANS.

The proposition to take a careful and simultaneous census of all the Indian tribes and bands of the United States and Territories, during the present year, which has been embodied in a bill introduced by Representative Schofield, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, meets with the concurrence of a large majority of the members of Congress, and is regarded as a long needed measure.

XLII CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 24, 1873.

SENATE.

Mr. ANTHONY was chosen President *pro tem.* in the absence of the Vice President.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill to authorize the construction of a pneumatic tube road from New York to Chicago.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the Senate resumed the consideration of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill.

Mr. SHERMAN said there were questions connected with the currency which it was indispensably necessary for Congress to consider at an early day. There was already a law requiring the transfer of $25,000,000 banking capital from the East to the West, which the Comptroller claimed to be impracticable, and there was also the question of the right of the Secretary of the Treasury to reissue any portion of the retired and cancelled United States notes.

Mr. EDMUNDS offered an amendment to the appropriation bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to withhold all payments to any railway company on account of freight or transportation of any kind, to the amount of any agreement made by the United States for interest upon bonds, or United States bonds issued to any such company and not reimbursed.

Mr. STEWART made the point of order that the amendment being new legislation was not in order in an appropriation bill.

President *pro tem.*, overruled the point of order.

Mr. EDMUNDS advocated the amendment. It was necessary, he said, for the protection of the interests of the people, and if it violated in any way the legal rights of the railway companies they might seek redress through the Court of Claims.

Mr. SHERMAN said the question involved in the amendment was one which could not be readily determined, and as it was hardly pertinent to this bill he regretted that the amendment had been offered.

Mr. SHERMAN having expressed a doubt as to the jurisdiction of the Court Claims in the matter,

Mr. EDMUNDS offered the following addition to his amendment: "And any such company may bring suit in the Court of Claims to recover the price of such freights and transportation, and in such suits the right of each company to recover the same upon the law and the facts of the case shall be determined and the right of any party to such suit may appeal to the Supreme Court."

Mr. SHERMAN said he feared this amendment would narrow the question of the United States in the matter.

Mr. EDMUNDS said that if he did not know the great anxiety of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) to be Secretary of the Treasury, he would be tempted to suspect that for some great public reason the Senator was trying to find out how to do it.

Mr. STEVENSON offered a substitute for Mr. Edmunds's amendment, directing the President to institute suits in the Court of Claims against the Pacific Railroad for discovery of the interest paid by the United States on its bonds, issued for the benefit of said road. In advocating his amendment Mr. Stevenson said that the corporations of the country were gigantic powers warring upon the rights of the government and people, and warned those that if they were not willing in a disputed case like this to submit to a fair adjudication, there was a power in the land which would rise up and put them all under its feet.

Mr. TRUMBULL said he was not the advocate of railroad companies, but he wished to have the law treated fairly. He then reviewed the history of the legislation providing for the construction of the Pacific Railroad. Under the act of 1862, by which all compensation for services rendered to the government by the railroad was withheld, nobody, he said, could be found to build the road, which rendered necessary the act of 1864, providing that only one-half such compensation should be retained by the government. To withhold the whole of the compensation due to the roads, he said, at this time would therefore be to violate the faith of the United States, pledged in the act of 1864.

Mr. STEWART presented an amendment, which he said he would offer at the proper time as a substitute for Mr. Edmunds's amendment, providing for the claims of railway companies precedence in the distribution of the proceeds to be instituted in the proper court of the United States for the purpose of ascertaining if any obligation of the Union Pacific Railroad Company or any other railroad company created by act of July 1st, 1862, or act of July 2d, 1864, in relation to the interest on bonds, remains unpaid, and a decree in favor of the same, if any there be against such company or companies.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, presented an amendment directing the President to take proper measures, as may be necessary, to recover from the Pacific Railroad Companies the interest paid by the United States on bonds issued for the use of either of said roads, and conferring jurisdiction on the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York to hear and determine the same, subject to appeal as in other cases.

Pending action the Senate went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Committee on Elections made a report that neither Delarge nor Bowen, contestants, are entitled to a seat as Representative from South Carolina. After an argument by Bowen, the contestant, in his own behalf, and brief discussion, the report was adopted without division.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Appropriation bill. The consideration of the bill was interrupted by business of the District of Columbia, which was specially assigned to this day. After passing a large number of bills relating to the District, the House adjourned.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 25, 1873, 7 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England, winds shifting to northerly and westerly, with rising barometer, falling temperature and clearing weather, accompanied by light snow. For Middle States, rising barometer, falling temperature, northerly to westerly winds and clear and clearing weather, accompanied by light snow over the northern portion. For Southern States east of Mississippi and northward to Lake

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1873.

NOTWITHSTANDING the previous statement of the Secretary of the Treasury that he should not at present bind the Department for the negotiation of more than a hundred millions of the five per cents., under that new syndicate proposition, it appears that he has effected a negotiation of the whole three hundred millions, the various parties to the different proposals having united and agreed to take between them the entire amount, thus making but one bite of the cherry.

THE New York Constitutional Commission is making considerable progress in the serious and important duty with which it has been entrusted. A number of significant changes in the fundamental law of the State are proposed, the latest among them being the prohibiting of cities and towns from making special amendments to their charters. The facility with which these amendments have been made heretofore has been the source of many abuses in municipal government in that State.

BEHOLD how beautiful on the hills of North Carolina are the feet of Democratic progress! One of the leading opposition papers of that State lays down the following cardinal planks for incorporation into the creed of the faithful: The abolition of the entire system of public instruction; the sale of the State University; the abolition of the office of State Geologist; the restoration of the whipping post; the imposition of a poll tax as a qualification for voters—and last, but not least, the repudiation of the financial obligations of the State. Whatever else they may be, these propositions are certainly plain and straightforward enough. The *siren* songs of the new departure have evidently been chanted in vain in that quarter.

SOME of the Democratic papers, which appear to glory in the election of an "unrepentant rebel" soldier as United States Senator from Georgia, have nothing but harsh and bitter words for ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, who, defeated in his Senatorial aspirations, has been nominated to fill the unexpired term of a deceased member of the lower branch of Congress. There are doubtless a number of reasons why Mr. STEPHENS should not be elected, but they are not of a kind which the Democracy are likely to use; and moreover, they apply quite as forcibly to the case of General GORDON, as to that of the ex-Vice President of the Southern Confederacy. The chief ground on which the hostility of these Journals is based, seems to be Mr. STEPHENS' opposition to secession prior to that event, and his outspoken indorsement of the course of President GRANT with regard to the Louisiana troubles. And therein lies a most suggestive moral.

THE last annual report of the Boston Chief of Police, just published, furnishes some interesting data for the study of those who have to do with the government of large cities. Starting with the proposition that "to diminish crime it must be prevented," he details the various processes by which his department stepped behind the arrest of criminals to interfere with the train of circumstances that leads to the commission of crime; digging up, so to speak, the soil in which the weeds of evil-doing grow. One of his plans was to dismiss the entire detective force; selecting men for secret service from the ordinary police force, to serve, as occasions required, in citizen's dress. He claims that this plan has been found much more successful in detecting, arresting and preventing crime, than the method which preceded it; and that, under his system, women have been saved and returned to their friends, men rescued from evil courses, and a general diminution of crime effected to the amount of nearly fifty per cent. during the period in which the new method has been in operation. It is an old adage that prevention is better than cure. Why should it not be made applicable to police management—and in other cities beside Boston?

SOME LITTLE excitement has been created in religious circles in New York by the expulsion of a clergyman from the ministerial office for starting a species of lottery policy for the benefit of the church of which he was pastor. He, however, insists that the end justifies the means; so he still continues to preach—in another church—and to peddle his prize tickets, unhindered. It may be remarked, too, that it is somewhat difficult to see wherein his proceedings differ in character from the general run of proceedings at church fairs, where "grab bags," postoffices and raffles bring in most of the money. The motive appealed to in all these cases is love of gain, and in all of them, while a few people get more than their money's worth, the many receive less. It might perhaps be an interesting study for those who insist on the morality of these transactions, to inquire as to how far they beget and promote other habits of speculation and gambling, in those who indulge in them. In Wisconsin the evil effects of these so-called religious and benevolent distribution schemes have become so marked that the Governor has called upon the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting them; and it is quite likely that their demoralizing influences are just as common and real in other States.

THERE DOES not appear to be any good reason why, with proper management, the waters of the globe may not be made as serviceable, acre for acre, as sources of food supply, as is the soil of the earth itself. We have on several occasions adverted to the various movements on foot for re-stocking our own lakes and rivers with the fish which, once abundant, have become extinct from over-fishing and want of proper protection with respect to propagation. The annual report of the United States Commissioner of Fisheries just published, contains a vast amount of interesting information concerning the measures which have been adopted for securing the multiplication of useful food fishes, foreign and domestic, and those which are yet in contemplation. Shad have already been placed in the Alleghany, Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi, Alabama, Platte and Colorado rivers; with salmon, white-fish and other varieties of fine, marketable fish, in waters suitable to their nature and habits; while it is also proposed to stock the great Salt Lake, and other interior bodies of saline waters, with shad, salmon, oysters, lobsters, &c., it being found that they abound largely in the food on which these fishes subsist. Time and money will, of course, be required to accomplish the results hoped for, but there seems to be a reasonable prospect of ultimately making the marine food resources of the country practically inexhaustible.

NOT A LITTLE public commendation has been bestowed on New Jersey judges and juries for the impartial and even handed manner in which they have been wont to deal out justice to offenders against the law. Some time ago one BUMSTEAD, who from the extent and magnitude of his swindling operations was dubbed the "Boss Tweed" of Jersey City, was sent to the penitentiary for nine months for stealing money from the city under cover of a real estate operator. But now see the fine discrimination of the penal authorities of New Jersey between its wealthy convicts and those who are poor. This man, who was pardoned a few days ago, occupied two sumptuously furnished cells which had been converted into a suite for his benefit. Convicts, moreover, have to work; but BUMSTEAD paid sixty cents a day to the State to escape labor, and during his imprisonment he spent between two and three thousand dollars in providing himself with choice viands and other luxuries, which were served up to him every day. Thus, pampered and petted, clothed in purple and fine linen, he sipped the wine of his punishment in luxurious ease, treated on every side with gingerly obsequiousness until he marched out of prison shining with sleekness, on his way to a reception and banquet, which, it is said, are being prepared "in his honor" at a leading hotel. How proud ought not New Jersey to feel over the incomparable way in which she has vindicated the outraged majesty of the law!

MORE than one English newspaper has lately seen fit to take the United States pretty severely to task for its alleged low standard of commercial morality. We do not undertake to say that these strictures have been altogether undeserved. Here, as almost everywhere else, there are speculators whose unscrupulous and spiritual transactions are a public scandal and disgrace. As a general thing, however, our commercial and business classes are as upright and high principled as those of any other country. England, at least, is wholly without justification for throwing stones at us, as the following instance in point will show: The Turkish government has several loans for large sums, the interest paid being generally six per cent., and a sinking fund being provided for the annual redemption of a portion of the bonds. Some speculators in London, knowing that at times doubts were expressed of the Turkish revenue meeting the expenditure, recently formed a scheme to depress the loans. They prepared an ingenious circular purporting to be addressed by the Turkish Foreign Minister to the representatives of that government at the various European capitals, setting forth that the Turkish loans were all to be consolidated, that interest was to be reduced to five per cent., and that there would be no more sinking fund redemptions of bonds. This fabricated circular, bearing what seemed to be an official stamp, was published simultaneously in all the leading London journals, its intended effect being to depress the loans as the Turkey, thereby enabling the speculators who invented the story, and who stood ready to buy all the bonds offered, to reap a handsome profit from the reaction that was sure to follow as soon as the forgery was exposed. We don't think England is exactly the proper sort of personage to lecture us on the impropriety of wearing dirty skirts.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS AND SPRING ELECTIONS.

The Constitutional Convention appears, from its action already taken, to be given up to dreams and vagaries. It seems bent on adopting the section reported by its Committee on Legislation, which contains to our mind, three distinct heresies in it, the adoption of which by the Convention reflects but little credit on its good judgment. These are,

I. Prohibiting any city from having more than four Senators.

II. Biennial sessions of the Legislature.

III. Spring elections for local and municipal elections throughout the State, on one day, and to include Judicial officers.

The first proposition is simply an outrage upon every man's sense of Justice. It provides that, no matter what her population may be, Philadelphia shall never have more than four Senators. She is now entitled to six, and has but four, and no good reason can be given for disfranchising the people of that city to that extent. No people can afford to be unjust in their Constitution; and to say that 500,000 citizens outside of Philadelphia, shall have the same representation in the Senate as 800,000 citizens in it, is unjust in the highest degree. Equality in representation is a right which cannot safely be withheld or denied.

The second proposition for Biennial Legislatures, is founded on the idea that it will check and restrain legislation. But it is founded on a fallacy. It is a dream and nothing more. Experience has dispelled the delusion, elsewhere, but there seems to be, in this Convention, a total incapacity to profit by the experience of other peoples. Ohio tried it, a generation ago; and yet she has had an *annual* session of her Legislature ever since its adoption. The Biennial Legislatures either adjourned, at the end of the first session to meet the following winter, to sit through it, or the Governor called a special session. No winter has ever passed over without a session of the Legislature at Columbus; and the simple effect of the constitutional provision was, not to restrain legislation or reduce the sessions of the Legislature, but simply to extend the term of the legislators. Ohio and Pennsylvania have both held annual sessions; but our legislators were elected for one year and theirs for two.

It may be urged that the Constitution may prevent the Legislature from meeting more than once in two years, and prohibit the calling of extra sessions. So it may. But how about emergencies that may arise? Suppose the first Legislature under this plan to be chosen in 1874, and to meet in 1875. It will adjourn in the spring or summer of 1875, and no session can again be held until 1877. And then suppose the State to be invaded in 1875 or 1876, or some public calamity to befall the people of the State. Are we to suffer in silence until the Legislature can meet, constitutionally, a year or two afterward?

No one will pretend, we think, that such contingencies must not be provided for, and some discretion must be left in the Governor's hands as to calling extra sessions; and the moment you concede that power, that moment the possibility of preventing annual sessions goes clean out of reach.

We regard biennial sessions, therefore, as impracticable and improbable, and the present plan of electing Legislatures every year as preferable to choosing them once in two years. The blunders of one year, now, can be repaired the next; but under the biennial system the blunder of one year lasts for two.

The third proposition, to fix a day in February for all municipal elections, is in itself a blunder, and must lead to confusion and trouble. February is, for the largest part of the State, the worst possible month in the year for elections, and in cities, which begin their fiscal year in January, elections in February must work endless mischief. Fixing township elections at a time of year when the roads are bad, or the weather inclement, and when people will not or cannot turn out to attend them, is simply to throw those important elections into the hands of the few people who live near the places of holding them. It does not suit public convenience to hold these elections on one day throughout the State, and least of all does it suit in February.

The attempt to add to these township elections the choice of judicial officers, is the purest folly. It, as is most likely, but few people comparatively should attend these elections, the choice of the most important officers we have would be thrown into the hands of the minority. The time to elect judges is at the time when the people all turn out at the general elections, and not at a time when public interest has abated and public vigilance is relaxed.

But, it is said, the choice of a day in February for such elections will take the selection of township, borough and city officers and judges out of politics. How? and by what means? Upon what is the idea predicated, that politics will prevail at the October election and not at the February election? It is only cutting one job in two. The city elections in Pittsburgh and Allegheny were in December; but did politics prevail any the less at either? Was not every man, or nearly so, elected on a party ticket?

Politics can never be separated from elections in this country. They will control the choice of all officers as well in one month as another. And as long as men have political convictions, there is no good reason why it should not be so. Every officer chosen by popular vote is a partisan, and will carry his party views into office with him, no matter how or by whom chosen. We have known men chosen in moments of frenzy, when people thought they were acting independent of party: but we never knew of one so chosen who did not act out his previous political convictions, and we never knew of an instance in which the people did not afterwards regret their choice.

Judging from this specimen of the work of the Constitutional Convention, we have little hope of any good result from its labors. Its acts, so far, are the acts of dreamers and vagarists. The work is that of tinkers and not of skilled craftsmen. If what is to come is as silly and ridiculous as what has already passed, the doom of the new Constitution is already sealed. No people with a gleam of intelligence will approve such an instrument. All change is not reform, and none of the changes yet effected by this body can be regarded as an improvement.

THE PARDONING POWER.

Public opinion during the last few years has been a good deal exercised in Pennsylvania, as well as in some other States, on the subject of the pardoning power. For a while there was a decided tendency to censure Governor GRANT for a too liberal use of his official prerogative of mercy, but criticism of this kind was almost silenced by the well remembered statement, appended to a message, of the grounds upon which a pardon in every case during the term just expired had been granted. From this report it appeared that in every instance, a weight of influence had been brought to bear in favor of the convict, which it was hardly reasonable to expect "a Governor with bowels" to disregard or resist. As regards the criminals of Allegheny county, in particular, who had at that time been pardoned, we suppose every candid person, who looked at the published names of their intercessors, must have felt that probably, if placed in the Governor's position, he would have yielded to their wishes. The truth is that under our democratic system the exercise of the pardoning power is encompassed with peculiar difficulties. The fact might have been confidently anticipated, and it has been fully established by experience. Steadfastly to refuse the petitions of relatives and friends for the pardon of one dear to them, under all circumstances hard, is especially so when the public functionary appealed to holds his office at the will of the people, and the petitioners may be able to muster whole clans of kindred, reinforced by disinterested multitudes, in support of their likes and dislikes. Of this state of matters it is perhaps an inevitable condition that with whatever caution and reserve the functionary invested with this prerogative may act, in the conflict of parties and single aspirants for power, he will certainly, with or without reason, be charged with abuse.

GOVERNOR HARTRANFT'S reference to the subject in his inaugural address lays it fairly before the people for discussion, and the Constitutional Convention at present in session will hardly neglect to consider it with a view to practical regulation in the fundamental law of the State. It seems not unlikely that any drawal of the pardoning power from the Governor. Undoubtedly in him as the chief Magistrate of the State should rest no insignificant portion of the responsibility which attaches to the exercise of so important a prerogative. But there is no good reason why he should be required, as at present, to bear the whole burden imposed by the duty. Indeed, the conditions of his high office make it simply impossible for him to institute those independent inquiries which in some cases are indispensable to the intelligent exercise of the power in question. In England the sovereign pardons only on the recommendation of the proper Minister, the Secretary of the Home Office, we believe. The King of Prussia exercises the same function only after the case referred to him has been thoroughly investigated by competent jurists, and also considered in Cabinet council. In the French republic, as all readers of the newspapers are aware, the President in answering appeals for pardon regards himself as bound to follow the recommendation of the Commissioners appointed by the National Assembly for the purpose. And in some of the States of the Union, unless we mistake, the Governor is aided by an advisory board, who share with him a responsibility which in some instances must well deserve to be characterised as awful.

IT MAY be that when poor MAXAMILIAN'S misguided attempt to make himself Emperor of Mexico shall have been forgotten, he will be remembered as the introducer of the cinchona tree among the people who refused to let him rule them. Every person who has ever suffered from intermittent or remittent fever has learned to know the value of the cinchona tree, from which quinine is procured, and to appreciate the gift bestowed in making it grow where it never grew before. A few years ago the cinchona grew exclusively in the Andes of Peru and the adjacent countries, and in order to keep up the price of the bark the people of those regions, selfish monopolists, permitted only a certain limited quantity of it to be produced. It consequently became so scarce that thousands of lives in Europe, Asia and America perished, which might have been saved with the indispensable medicine. At length, with extreme difficulty, the Dutch government succeeded in procuring some shoots and seeds of the precious tree in Peru, which, planted in Java, flourished beyond expectation. And then the English, also, after failing in two attempts, succeeded in cultivating the cinchona in India. While on his voyage to Mexico, on the ship Novara, MAXAMILIAN, reading HUMBOLDT'S account of the country, met with the passage, in which the great German savan states, that in the region of Jalapa, all those tropical plants and trees are found which grow in the cinchona region of the Andes, excepting only cinchona itself. And the young prince at once resolved that he would introduce the invaluable tree. This resolution he never forgot. But the jealousy of the Peruvians, intensified by the success of the Dutch and English in weakening their monopoly, was so watchful and determined, that MAXAMILIAN had to send all the way to the East Indies for the plants, so that when, in October, 1866, they arrived in Mexico, under Dr. J. A. NIEROS escort, they had circumnavigated the globe. Planted in judiciously selected ground, between the Atlantic coast and the capital, these trees are now flourishing, and perhaps constitute MAXAMILIAN'S most lasting monument.

ACCORDING to the New York *Handelszeitung*, Mr. Congressman MERRIAM'S proposition to abolish the usury laws as they affect the national banks, is the only measure touching finance discussed during the present session of Congress that seems really worthy of consideration. Usury laws, it says, belong completely to the past, resting on views no longer entertained by intelligent economists. They are therefore a disgrace to every State in which they exist, and admit of no defense or justification. They not only do not suffice to prevent the evils which they were designed to counteract, but rather intensify them by excluding competition. To decree that in the State of New York it shall be unlawful to take more than seven per cent. interest, while in the State of Illinois the illegality first begins above eight per cent., and in the State of California no legal limit is established—this, says the writer, is an anomaly which every sensible man must condemn, and which must have long ago ceased to exist, if there were not a thousand ways of evading the law. Though the MERRIAM proposition might not in future hinder high interest rates during certain seasons of the year, yet in a light condition of the market the national banks would be in a position to openly loan more than seven per cent. for their disposible capital, and thus by competition seriously interfere with the business of those many Shylocks who are at present able to screw the rates to such extravagant heights. The banks, thus always sure of commanding the full market value of their money, would also be able to treat their patrons with greater liberality. So far as the national banks are concerned, this mercantile organ whose remarks we cite, regards the usury laws as the worst enemies of legitimate business, and thinks that every friend of progress must hope that Mr. MERRIAM may succeed in carrying through his measure.

PERSONAL.

Hon. Edmund G. Ross, at one time a colleague of Pomeroy in the United States Senate, is now a resident of Lawrence, and sets type for a manufacturing newspaper. A correspondent says: "Ross may go back to the Senate some day. It would be poetic justice for him to succeed Pomeroy. But Kansas will have to grow a little yet before she sends capable of prosaic justice, to say nothing of poetic. If Ross ever should go back to the Senate there would be one more brave and honest man in that body than there is now, and there would be added to the social treasures of Washington a bright and beautiful girl, brave as her father is, who keeps his plain little home in Lawrence, and takes care of her little brothers for the mother that is gone."

C. S. Lozier, M. D., Dean of the New York Medical College for Women, denies the statement that Mrs. Merriman—now the wife of Pere Hyacinthe—made a fortune in the corset business. "She was never engaged in any kind of business or trade, either as agent, seller or manufacturer; but she was the inventor of a hygienic arrangement, adapted to the dress of women, which prevents and counteracts the injurious effects of tight lacing by the common corset and the modern mode of dressing, which fact, if fairly carried out, not only one of the greatest causes of the almost universal ill-health of women, but one of the greatest curses of Christendom. Being earnestly solicited by myself and several other physicians of New York, and actuated by humanity, she adapted this valuable hygienic principle to practice, securing it by patent. It has received the hearty commendation of physicians, both in America and Europe, and has been tested by hundreds of suffering women, many of them my own patients." Furthermore, she made no fortune, but certainly lost money on her invention.

One of the sons of O'Donovan Rossa is on his way to New York from Queenstown, Ireland. The youth, who is intended for the legal profession, has until lately been a student at St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, Ireland. He leaves behind him at that institution a brother, who will enter the priesthood.

A man in Lewistown, Maine, worth $150,000, lately went into a store in that place, bought a pipe and paid a cent for it, and then wanted the proprietor to give him tobacco enough to fill it, and because the storekeeper didn't do it, went off in a huff.

Pere Hyacinthe made his first public appearance in Paris since his change in ecclesiastical and social position on the first Sunday evening of the year, delivering an address to a large mixed audience in M. Pressense's chapel, Taitbout, in the Rue de Provence. He defined his position as a faithful Catholic though not accepting certain dogmas.

The contest for the Republican nomination for Governor in Connecticut has been simplified by the withdrawal from the contest of Hon. John T. Waite, of Norwich, and Col. Dexter R. Wright, of New Haven. But three candidates are now in the field—Hon. Henry B. Harrison, of New Haven; Hon. Henry P. Haven, of New London, and Hon. Amos S. Treat, of Woodbridge, ex Speaker of the Assembly, with the chances perhaps in favor of the latter.

A rhymester says that Napoleon fell "because he never understood what was good in the human heart, but only what was evil. It is one of God's wholesome lessons to the world that a rule like his must be defeated by its own baseness."

The Secretary of the Navy is noted for the very good and appropriate things he can say on the spur of the moment. This reputation is just, as the following "mot" will prove: At the President's last levee, Secretary Robeson, while talking with one lady, accidentally stepped on the train of another standing behind him. The wearer of the latter, feeling herself to be fixed to the spot, turned to the Secretary, and finding him immovable, as have the relatives and friends of the "nibbles" who are entreating for the Academy the privilege of assisting at the inauguration ceremonies—said, "I beg pardon, Mr. Secretary, you are standing on my train. Secretary Robeson turned instantly, and replied, "Though I may not have the power to draw a mortal from the skies, I have pinned an angel to the earth." "Oh, Mr. Secretary," exclaimed the lady, "please step on my train again; I want to be an angel, and I'd rather not move."

One C. A. Robeson, who has in past years victimized various parties in San Francisco and Boston with pretended discoveries of inexhaustible gold mines, and who endeavored to play the same trick on the State Department in connection with an imaginary quartz vein which was to pay the national debt and leave a million or so for every inhabitant of the United States, was like other day arrested in Louisville, where he was duping people with a miraculous account of another and even richer Eldorado, whither he offered to direct a few select hundreds for the moderate sum of fifty dollars a head.

S. W. Dorsey, the new Senator from Arkansas, is only thirty-two years old. He is a Vermonter, and a graduate of Oberlin University, in Ohio. He served in the war as a private soldier from this State, and after it was over he settled in Sandusky. He then became an emigrant to Arkansas, and was elected President of the Arkansas Central Railroad.

The remarkable discovery has been made in England that Mr. J. K. Emmet, the actor, is a grandson of Robert Emmet's brother.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

To-day there is to be a sale of the art collection of T. Buchanan Read, in Philadelphia. Besides his own paintings it comprises several pieces by Bierstadt, Herzog, Coleman and Inman.

Vast numbers of animals are already arriving for Mr. Barnum from every direction and from every clime. Among these is a fairy elephant, so dainty and small that it can be carried about on the shoulders of any man who has an inclination to try. It comes from the East Indies, and weighs about one hundred and forty pounds.

Philadelphians consumed 604,019½ barrels of malt liquors last year, an increase over 1871 of 74,116½ barrels. What a thirsty set they must be.

A company, it is stated, is now in course of formation to lay a submarine cable from Rangoon to Singapore, touching at the Andaman Islands, Penang and Malacca.

The Village of Falling Waters of Rip Van Winkle's time was not a patch to Plymouth Center, Ct. They have built but one house there in forty-five years.

An Oxfordshire farmer writes to the London *News*: If it could be proved, I have little doubt that the aggregate yearly earnings of the farm laborers and their wives in half the counties of England would be found to far exceed the average annual stipends of the curates of the Established church, with all her boasted wealth.

A brute, by stretch of courtesy called a man, in Worthington, Mass., after trying various methods to make a balky horse draw, finally slip-nooced a strong clothes-line on the tongue of the poor beast, and then attached such a power to the line that the tongue was actually torn out by the roots. Ashamed of his work, the owner hid this gory and mangled member in the snow, but he did not possess enough humanity to put the agonized animal out of his misery. The buried tongue was found by some boys, and a full exposure of the cruelty speedily followed. The suffering beast was found in the stable, still living.

The British Indian Empire contains a population of 241,000,000, accepting the figures assigned to the 158 feudatory States by Parliamentary Blue-books. Of these, 186,000,000 are directly ruled by the Governor General, two Governers, three Lieutenant Governors, and three Chief Commissioners. Of the other 55,000,000, 48,000,000 are directly ruled by 153 native chiefs.

The experiment of expanding the tires of locomotive driving wheels by gas heating, instead of in a wood fire, as heretofore practised at the Boston and Albany Railroad shops, bids fair to be successful. A tire was so expanded and put on in twenty minutes, the other day, which is about the time usually required to get the fire agoing.

Six English grain-laden steamers have been lost on the Atlantic ocean since last October; this terrible list of disasters being attributable to the want of sea-going qualities of most of the vessels engaged in the trade.

A New York Grand Jury is stated to have indicted *Woodhull & Claflin's Weekly*, the *Day's Doings*, the *Police Gazette* and the *Police News* as indecent publications. This should have been done long ago.

The "Millerite" doctrines of twenty-five years ago are being revived at Groton, Vermont, where they are confident that the world will come to an end this year. One old shoemaker is so certain of this fact that he is sending back the measures of his regular customers—though why the measures should go back if nobody will want the boots presently, is not clear.

Ashland, Wisconsin, was incorporated as a town last year, and since that time (about ten months), has opened and graded over ten miles of streets, laid nearly ten miles of sidewalks, built a number of bridges, erected two good school houses, organized and maintained a Methodist church and commenced work on another church, besides building a town hall and jail. The amount expended for building improvements exceeded $500,000. This beats the best efforts in that direction of the Pennsylvania oil regions.

Dr. Hochstetter, in the *Revue Hebdomadaire de Chimie*, describes some curious experiments with sulphur, which serve to explain some volcanic phenomena. When sulphur is melted under water, and with a pressure of forty-five pounds to the square inch, the sulphur absorbs some of that fluid. As the sulphur cools this is driven out as steam, accompanied by explosions. When the quantity of sulphur is large, an upheaving takes place, craters are formed, and molten sulphur is ejected.

For the first time in a good many years we hear of those strange people, the inmates of the Agapemone, at Spaxton, near Bridgewater, in England. The "Princelets," as they are called, have commenced a series of revival meetings, at which it is declared that the Gospel dispensation has passed away; that the Judgment Day has commenced; that Brother Prince has the spirit of judgment, and has purified and glorified the bodies as well as the souls of his followers.

An International Industrial Exposition Association has been organized in St. Louis, whose purpose is to develop the industries and to enlarge the commerce of the city, to make known to the world the relative standard of St. Louis among other cities, and thus to attract attention to its advantages. It also invites the competition and display of neighboring cities in the Exposition. The capital stock of the new enterprise is $1,000,000.

The Lac qui Parle, Minnesota, *Press*, of January 4th, says that the atmospheric phenomena known as mirage, appeared the last day of the old year, in splendor and beauty. The timber on the Cotean Hills, thirty miles distant, showed as plainly as if only a mile away. It seemed to be not only a reflection, but a magnifying power in the atmosphere.

The Superintendent of the Harlem Railroad Company has introduced a system of duplex tickets for use by the conductors of that road in all cases where the passenger is not provided with commutation cupons or tickets obtained at one of the regular offices of the company.

Governor Moses, of South Carolina, recommends that a bonus equal to the State tax on their buildings, land and machinery be granted to all manufactories of cotton and woolen goods established in the State prior to November 1, 1875.

A Michigan State Prohibitory Convention is to be held in Detroit on February 5, to consider what amendments, if any, shall be asked for during the present session of the State Legislature.

Pen Picture of Eugenie.

A London letter contains the following pen picture of Eugenie as she was: Unlike the French women—who are short and dumpy, especially in middle life—the Empress is queenly in form, tall, slim and stately. Unlike the French women, whose complexions are dark, sallow, and even dingy, the Empress's face is as white as alabaster. Her eye is clear but piercing; her smile captivating; her brow gracious. Arrayed in her regal robes she is simply magnificent. Every thing about her is in keeping. Her taste is unequalled. Every thing is in proportion, and one part is suited to the other. She knows what will agree with her complexion to the exact shade of ribbon. You can suggest no alteration in her dress. On state occasions when she greets the public eye she wears every thing regal and stately that becomes her station. On ordinary occasions her dress is very plain, very simple, yet very taking. Her hair seems to be the central point of her dress. If it is brown or blue, green or crimson, her gloves, scarf, ornaments and apparel correspond. Her spirits are ever buoyant, her disposition joyous, and she seems disposed to enjoy her position. On her last visit to England she was the guest of the Queen. A new wing was held at St. James's parlic in her honor, which she beheld from the balcony of Buckinghham palace, in company with Victoria and Napoleon. She was as merry as a school girl. She clasped her hands and shouted in her French style like a little girl at the grand display. Her bouyancy and gleefulness of manner led to say frivolity, shocked the dignified and sober Queen of England; and more than once Victoria laid her hand on the shoulder of her illustrious friend to remind her that while such outbursts of feeling were perfectly natural, they were not regal!

An Incident of the Broderick Duel.

Col. H. V. Boynton writes from Washington to the Cincinnati *Gazette:*

Leonidas Hoskell, of California, formerly an intimate friend of Broderick, died in this city a few days since. Two incidents connected with his death reach back to the days of the celebrated duel wherein Broderick lost his life—wherein he was murdered, would be the fitter term. Mr. Hoskell was here to secure the passage of a bill for the relief of those who settled upon and improved property within what was afterward held by the courts to be the military reservation of Point Jose, in the outskirts of San Francisco.

Upon this reservation the duel was fought, and when Broderick fell he was carried to the house of Mr. Hoskell, and died there. Mr. Hoskell has ever since preserved the coat which Broderick wore, marked on the breast with the bullet hole.

When Hoskell died here last week, and friends came to lay him out, they were asked by a member of his family to select a suit from his wardrobe, and dress him for the grave in that. Without special design or knowledge on their part, the coat of his friend was selected, and he was placed in the coffin thus attired.

The day after his death the bill which would restore his rights in the former dueling ground passed the Senate. It was reported to the House the day Mr. Hoskell was buried, in the coat which his friend Broderick wore when he bore him from that field, and laid him in his own house to die.

Here, stated in the plain language of fact, is material from which fiction might weave many pages.

A JERSEY SENSATION.

A Romance With a Mysterious Stranger and a Big Sum of Money for its Foundation.

[From the Camden (N. J.) Democrat.]

Some time last summer a plain-looking and apparently care-worn man was passing a gentleman's dwelling in or near Beverly. His little daughter, remembering that her father wanted help to pick berries, hailed the stranger and asked him if he was seeking employment. He replied in the affirmative, and at once had an interview with the proprietor, who set him at work. He proved to be active and industrious, and made himself useful in many ways—so much so, that his employer retained him afterwards. It was discovered that he had more than ordinary intelligence—was quite polished in his manners, and equally unpresuming. As time progressed, it was discovered that he was master of five different languages, and was at home on any subject when drawn out in conversation. He was, nevertheless, an efficient and faithful worker—always obedient and obliging—winning the esteem of the entire family.

His employer finally came to the conclusion that he was not what he seemed; and surmised that from some cause or other, whether reputable or disreputable, he was an exile from his native land, and sought concealment. It was noticed that he corresponded with parties in Russia; but as he kept his own counsel, and was too dignified to admit of "pumping," there was no clue to the mystery. This winter, however, his employer having nothing for him to do, could not keep him. He left, and went to Newark, where he was working as a laborer the last heard of him.

Now comes the mysterious part of the story. Some days since, the gentleman who employed him at Beverly received a draft for £66,000—about $330,000 of our currency—in favor of his mysterious workman. The gentleman has gone to Newark in search of him, for the purpose of delivering the draft in person. The affair has made quite a stir in the little circle familiar with the facts, and all sorts of speculations indulged in. The last conjecture is, that he is a Russian nobleman, who fought a duel—such an occurrence having taken place some time previous to the stranger's arrival—and that he was forced to a precipitate departure from his native land, but has been pardoned; others, that a relative has died and left him the fortune, as he had often spoke of a wealthy aunt in his own country. He was always pleasant, but was often absorbed in thought at times showing, melancholy cast of countenance, as if oppressed by some secret sorrow. He was too amiable in disposition, however, and wore too well on further acquaintance, to admit of the suspicions of crime.

A STRANGE CASE OF FRAUD.

A Mother Cheated Out of Her Child—Who Has Lost a Little Boy?

[From the St. Louis Democrat.]

The Mayor has received the following letter from a distressed mother in England:

SIR—I must apologize for thus troubling you, but the distressing circumstances force me to do so. Three years ago my husband, Robert John Bullen, left England for America, taking with him our youngest child, then just turned seven years of age. On the 23d of last month he returned, bringing with him a little boy, a tender, delicate, loving child, but not ours. He is, I fear, stolen from some institution. I learn from him something of the "dormitory No. 152." I think he had been in very good hands. He read tolerably, and says the Lord's Prayer correctly. My husband came as he went, without telling me of his intention, and the guardians of the parish have called it desertion. I am most anxious to know what has become of my own child. My husband says nothing more than "that is Walter" when I ask him. The child he has brought is not more than eight years of age, light curly hair, dark eyes, light brow but dark lashes. He has many little moles about him, and some scars on the fingers, as if from cuts, one long one on the instep and one on the lower hip. I'm sure they will be sorry to lose him, he is such a lively little one, but with my husband he will be taught much that is evil, and more over is very cruel and tyrannical. They came over in the Erin, I am told, but I am not sure if that is true. I will do my best to keep watch over Erin, but my husband has separate apartments, and he may, at any day or hour, go away from the house he now inhabits. I have acquainted the police in my district and I have been before a magistrate. The result at present I don't know. I went because I feared violence to the child and myself. He has spoken of the child's father and a John. He readily replies to my own child's name of Walter. Will you kindly make inquiries for me if any such child as Walter Bullen or Bolleyne has died in your establishment? The child answers to the description of the little one I have, but mine is ten and a half years old, and tailer.

Yours respectfully,

MRS. R. J. BULLEN.

A Very Mean Trick.

[From the New York Times.]

If report speaks truly, the agent of a woolen mill at South Royalston, Mass., has recently been playing a very mean trick upon the female operatives in the weaving department. Some time ago, it appears, he offered a prize of five dollars to the girl who would weave most cloth within a period of three months. The desire to obtain the prize, and be declared champion weaver, became so strong that work was commenced by many of the operatives at five o'clock in the morning, and continued until seven in the evening. At the end of the period agreed upon, it was found that a girl named Rugg had done the most work, having woven 1,905 yards, for which, independent of the five dollars, was $123—probably the largest amount ever earned by a woman during the same space of time. Notwithstanding the cleverness of the feat, it is said that the agent refused to keep his promise on the flimsy pretext that the girl was not deserving. This excuse may satisfy the agent himself, but, leaving gallantry out of the question altogether, we think he will find it difficult to convince the people outside of his mill that he has not done right.

English in England.

It is high time, says the London *News*, that Englishmen were taugh to speak and write English. The half of the population of these islands is about as unintelligible to the other half as if it were talking Welsh. A Yorkshire and a Devonshire peasant thrown into company would not understand each other as readily as an Irishman and a Highlander talking Gaelic to each other. Even when both people who are fairly educated, and who live in those large circles of population in which provincialisms are supposed to die out, the English language is subjected to serious illtreatment. Half the country members of the House of Commons omit the final consonant in words ending with *ing*. Many of them talk of Indiar. The trick is played with the letter *h* which are common in many social circles do not appear, as a rule, in Parliament, except where the rural representative has to pronounce such a word as "behind." It would be an ignominious thing if thirty million of Japanese were to be found speaking better English than the English themselves. However, the Eastern nations have an odd habit of imitation. Every one knows the story of the Chinese tailor who made a coat according to pattern by imitating all the rents in it; and perhaps the Japanese will take the English language as it is reproducing all the current faults of pronunciation.

AS LATE as Monday of last week the boy ghost of Newburyport, Mass., an account of whose exploits has been given in the COMMERCIAL, was still haunting the old school-house in that town. A correspondent of the Boston *Post* of that date writes that the later manifestations are those of a ghostly carpenter in the attic, whose amusement seems to consist of sawing, hammering, planing and—whistling! Then when Miss Perkins, the teacher, goes up to the dusty old room, she finds the same undisturbed cobwebs of the past years, and nothing, not even the dust, bottoms side up. These things have been going on for about a year, and it is getting to be a first-class burden to the teacher and her scholars.

The Curator of the British Museum has issued a circular to sea captains forwarding specimens to that institution, to add a little tartar emetic to the alcohol in which they are preserved. The precaution has been rendered necessary by the habit the thirsty British seamen have of drinking up the alcohol, so that the specimens arrive in a very sad state of preservation.

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2. It is more quickly digested.
3. It is not pasty or starchy.
4. It will not become stale or wormy.
5. It is far more sweet and palatable.
6. It will cure Constipation and Dyspepsia!
7. It is invaluable to Nursing Mothers!
8. Children will be healthy who use it.

GET IT OF YOUR GROCER.

PAPOMA!!!

Indorsed by many eminent physicians of Pittsburgh and elsewhere. Food for INFANTS and INVALIDS. Remember that Starch is not food. It must be converted into Dextrine either in the stomach or by mechanical means. Our process saves the stomach this labor, as well as preserves the whole of the wheat.

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"A Dose in Time," &c.

If "a stitch in time saves nine," it is equally certain that a dose of a healthy tonic like Hostetter's Stomach Bitters taken at this inclement season of the year may save many an unpleasant tinge. A dose, however, is not sufficient. The system should be thoroughly charged with this genial vegetable stimulant and invigorant. Commence taking it with the commencement of the atmospheric changes which distinguish the winter from the autumn. Thereby you will avoid those disturbances of the digestive and secretive organs, and those painful diseases of the muscles and the nerves of sensation which often render the period of the year which should be the merriest a season of penance and disquietude. The extraordinary vigor and regularity which this exhilarating restorative imparts to the most important functions of the body, render it an invaluable remedy for nervous debility, constipation, indigestion, torpidity of the liver, and intermittent fevers.

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$10,000 Birmingham Market House Eight Per Cent. Bonds,
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IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

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Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, January 24, 1873.

We quote the following from the monthly circular of Messrs. Henry Clews & Co.:

"At no period since the close of the war, have we had such a combination of causes calculated to disturb confidence and invite disaster. Confidence has been maintained with remarkable steadiness, and the large amount of indebtedness which matures at the close of the year has been met with a regularity very rarely experienced. The general course of events throughout the year was calculated to incite caution and to check speculative and other undertakings; and it is probably very much owing to this conservative tone of affairs that we have escaped danger with such complete impunity. But with this prevailing prudence, there has been no injurious contraction of legitimate business; on the contrary, nearly every branch of industry and of trade has been active and prosperous, and so far as can be judged from statistics, business shows an important increase upon the previous year.

"Commercially and politically we occupy good vantage ground for encountering the events, whatever they may be, of the new year. Experience has taught us that the extraordinary financial operations connected with the French loan, the indemnity payments in Germany, and the new German coinage, are not frankly in with the real danger to European exchanges that has so long threatened; and this experience is the more valuable because it the better qualifies us for meeting any temporary irregularities which may arise from the continuance of these operations during the current year. Events have shown that France was wise in her early decision to consult the convenience of the money markets, and to conduct her operations through agents whose success is dependent upon their negotiations producing the least possible disturbance in the markets; and the German government, which at present controls the monetary situation of Europe, has shown itself in a very considerate regard for the convenience of the money markets. London has found that the danger of a large amount of German funds being withdrawn from there was much more apparent than real; there seems to be a good reason for doubting whether any very considerable amount of such deposits have ever been withdrawn, and the difficulties of the London money market appear to have arisen chiefly from domestic causes, akin to those which have caused considerable stringency at New York, viz.: unwise and needless legal restrictions upon banking operations. These deranging influences have to-day with the return of coin from the provinces, and an easier course of the market may be anticipated.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon
U. S. Bonds of 1881	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	114⅝	114⅝
U. S. Bonds of 1864	115⅛	115
U. S. Bonds of 1865	116	116⅛
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	115⅛	114⅞
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115⅝	115⅝
U. S. Bonds of 1868	115⅝	115⅝
10-40s		113⅜
New 5s		113⅜
Gold		113⅜
Currency 6s		114½

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	113⅛
United States 6s of 1881	115⅛
United States 5-20s of 1862	114⅝
United States 5-20s of 1864	115⅛
United States 5-20s of 1865	116
United States 10-40s	113⅝
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	115⅛
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	115⅝
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	115⅞
Currency Pacifics	114½

—In regard to the negotiation of American securities abroad the London *Times* has published an interesting table, showing the amount of various loans placed in that market in 1872. The amount paid on American State and city loans aggregated £4,396,445, while the amount actually put into American securities, being new issues of existing companies, which amount includes the railroad loans placed in London, was £13,876,713. The total of all these in dollars amounts to about $90,000,000. But under the head of miscellaneous shipments of unknown amounts of miscellaneous stocks (like Erie) and bonds already current in this and the foreign markets, nor does it include the United States bonds sent abroad—a comparatively small amount. It is estimated that the total cash value of our securities sold in England last year amounted to at least $110,000,000. And it is a fair estimate that the German markets took $50,000,000 to $100,000,000 more. But the amount paid up in London on loans and stocks marketed there during 1872 is about $130,000,000 or $660,000,000, of which only $50,000,000 was for home (or English) enterprises, with the remainder distributed between the United States and other foreign countries. It is proper to say that the greater part of the American securities taken in London and Germany were marketed during the early part of the year, the European demand for our securities for the past six months having been small; although there are indications that it is now reviving. The figures given above throw some light on the question of how far excessive imports of goods by our merchants have been paid for, or, in other words, how our balance of trade has been settled.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by George I. Whitney, Esq., broker and dealer in stocks, bonds and gold, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street:

January 24, 1873.	11 A. M.	12 M.	1 P. M.	2 P. M.
Gold	114	114	114	114
Canton	54	54½	54½	54½
Western Union Tel	82	82	82	82
Quicksilver	37	37	37	37
Pacific Mail	37½	37½	37½	37½
Adams Express	97½	97½	97½	97½
Wells, Fargo Express				
American Express	69½	69½	69½	69½
United States	117	117	117	117
New York Centrigal	105¾	105¾	106	105¾
Erie	25	25	25	25
Michigan Central	95	95	95	95
Michigan Southern	86½	86½	86½	86½
Illinois Cent.		119	119	119
Illinois Cent. leased		97½	97½	97½
Chicago and Rock Island	97	97	97	97
Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne	93	93	93	93
Chicago and Alton				
Cleveland and Pittsburg	87	87	87	87
Cleveland and Toledo	93	93	93	93
Columbus and Indiana Central				
Chicago and Northwestern	82	82	82	82
Stock leased	114½	114½	114½	114½
St. Paul	39	39	39	39
St. Paul preferred	70	70	70	70
Fort Wayne	93	93	93	93
Ohio and Mississippi	49½	49½	49½	49½
Union Pacific	88	88	88	88
Chicago and Alton				
Ill. preferred				
Boston, Hartford & Erie				
Marion	19½	19½	19½	19½
New Jersey Central				
C. C. & I. C.	97½	97½	97½	97½
Hannibal & St. Joe	48¼	48¼	48¼	48¼
Atlantic Mail				
Iron Mountain	87½	87½	87½	87½

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following telegraphic report of quotation of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penn's Central	57½	
Reading	58½	Lehigh Navigation—30½
United Co.'s of N.J.	89½	Pittsburgh
Cal Creek & A. V. R. R.	35¾	A. V. R. R.—38
Lehigh Valley R. R.	57¾	Central Transport'n

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, January 24.—Cotton steady; low middling advanced to 18½c. Flour firm and unchanged. Wheat advanced to $1.70@1.84. Other grain unchanged. Provisions unchanged. Mess $15. Bacon—shoulders 5½c; clear rib sides 7½c; clear sides 8c. Hams 12@13c. Lard—tierces 8½c; kegs 9½c. Sugar—cured hams 12@12½c. Whisky—demand good at 88½c.

Indianapolis Market.

INDIANAPOLIS, January 24.—Flour—Demand good at full prices, $5.50. Wheat—Demand fair at $1.50@1.75. Corn steady at 37c. Provisions strong. Bacon—shoulders 4½c; clear rib sides 6½c; clear sides 6¾c. Lard—tierces 8c; kegs 9½c. Sugar—cured hams 12@12½c. Whisky—demand good at 88½c.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, January 24, 1873.

REMARKS.—Owing to the extreme cold, blustery weather, business has ruled dull for the past few days. Grave fears are entertained that the heavy fall of snow will block the roads and cause serious loss to our merchants and people in the matter of supplies of flour, grain, &c. But we hope that these fears will prove groundless. We have no changes worthy of mention to make in the rulings of the market, and give the following as the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted:

ALES—Sales of Pittsburgh brands at the following figures: X, $9 ₩ bbl; XX, $10; India Ale, $11; Porter $10 ₩ bbl.

APPLES—Receipts 280 bbls. Choice cooking held at $2 50@2 75 ₩ bbl; fair $2 00@2 25; pigs foot, in kegs $1 25@1 50.

ASHES—Pearls 11@11½c; pots 10c; second sorts 4½@5c; refined 6@6½c; nitrate soda 4¼@5c; arsenic 3½@4c.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales at 50@55c per gallon.

BUTTER—Choice roll scarce and in demand at 32@33c ₩ lb; prime 17@20c; common 8@10c.

BEANS—Sales at $2 50@2 75 as to quality; common $2 00.

BEESWAX—Sales in a jobbing way at 32@35c ₩ lb.

BRANS—Bran $16 ₩ ton; shorts $17 ₩ ton; ₩ dozen $6 00; ₩ ½ bu cans $3 25; ₩ ¼ bu cans $1 75.

BROOM CORN—Prices nominally 4½@6c, as to quality and condition.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Receipts, pieces 4,898; tierces 50. Sales are made as follows: Sugar cured hams 13½c; sugar cured shoulders 7½c; plain shoulders 6c; ribsides 8½c; clear ribsides 8½c; clear sides 9c; breakfast bacon 9½c; 10 oz; medium 9c; mess pork $14 50; ham sausage 10c; leaf lard, in tierces, 8½c; leaf lard 9@9½c; pails 10c; pigs feet, in half bbls, $4 75; in kegs $2 40. Receipts bacon, pieces, 2,568; tierces 62.

CHEESE—There is but little doing, and prices are nominally as follows: New York Goshen 16½@17c ₩ lb; Ohio Goshen 15½@16c; Dairy 13½@14c; Ohio Factory, round lots, 14c; jobbing lots 14½@15c; inferior grades nominal in price.

CIDER—Sales at $5@7 per bbl. Market slow.

CRANBERRIES—Sackett's and Carey's $14@15 ₩ bbl; Cultivated and common do $8 ₩ bbl; Wild $6 ₩ bbl.

CARBON OIL—We quote: Standard brands, round lots, at 16½@17c; the usual advance from store.

CONCENTRATED LYE—The demand continues fair with sales at $8 ₩ case.

CANDLES—Sperm candles 8c; clear sides 6¼c; shoulders 5½c. Lard 7@7½c per lb.

CEMENT—Calcined plaster $4 25@4 50 per bbl; Keene's hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25; Louisville $2 50@2 75; Rosedale $4 00@4 25.

DRIED FRUITS—Sales: Apples, halves, 7½@9½c; apples, strictly choice, 5½@6c; pair, 4@4½c.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 5@5½c ₩ lb.

EGGS—The supply is still light, and prices firm at 26@28c for strictly fresh ₩ dozen; packed 25@30c.

FEATHERS—Receipts 925 barrels. No change in prices though they are not quotably higher. We quote as follows: Hot winter wheat 72@74c; No 2 do 69@70c; No 3 do 67@68c; on track, 68@70c; fine to choice, 65@67c; ear, on track, 60c. Barley 56@61 @1 00.

HAY—Market dull at $25@29 per ton for baled, on track.

HONEY—Sales in a small way at 29@30c ₩ lb.

HOMINY—Demand fairat $3 50@4 50 ₩ bbl.

HOPS—Sales of prime in this market at 55@60c ₩ lb and scarce; 1860s not quotable.

LIME—Carload sales $1 50 @ 1 60; cash $1 75.

LARD OIL—No 1 extra 70@75c ₩ gallon; No 2 60c.

MEAL, FEED—Sales at 1 ½ cwt in bags, ₩ bushel middlings $1 35@1 45, as to quality; corn meal $1 30@1 35.

MUSCK MEAT—Choice brands 12c ₩ lb.

ONIONS—We are reported sales of yellow $4 00@5 00; red $5 00@5 50. Market dull and stocks light.

POTATOES—Sales in bulk at 80c; sacks 85@90c.

POULTRY—Dressed turkeys 16@18c; dressed chickens 12@14c; dressed geese 5c@6c; dressed ducks 12@14c.

MALT—Held at 3½@3¾c ₩ lb.

SALT—Sales extra No 1 at $1 65 per bbl; No 2 $1 55.

SORGHO—Sales at $6 00 ₩ case of 6 doz.

SEEDS—Clover $5 00@5 25; flaxseed $1 93@1 96; timothy $2 60@2 80.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c ₩ lb.

WHISKY—Highwines 92@93c ₩ gal.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, January 25, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market was firmer, with an improved inquiry. The oil men were in a decidedly better humor. The advance was a general one at all the principal points in the oil regions, Parker's being held at $2 25@3 00 per barrel.

REFINED.

The market was firm and prices advanced to 18c per gallon for standard brands, free on cars, at works. The Eastern market is reported firm.

OIL BARRELS

are scarce. We quote: City $1 95; country $1 90.

(By Western Union Line.)

TITUSVILLE, January 24.—The *Courier* says: The market was firmer with a good feeling at all points. There was a great advance in the tone, caused by the home strength, and we hope for the best. Sales:

500 bbls upper road, spot	$1 90	
500 bbls upper road, spot	2 22½	
1,500 bbls upper road, spot	2 20	
500 bbls Oil City, spot	2 25	
1,500 bbls Oil City, spot	2 42½	
500 bbls Oil City, spot	2 40	
1,000 bbls Oil City, spot	2 45	
2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 15	

NEW YORK, January 24, closing 224.—Market firmer; crude 9½c; bid without business—asking 9¾@9½c. Refined in moderate demand; spot 25c; February 24d, 25c asked; March 25c; April 25c; May at 25½c. Yesterday, in addition to sales reported, 2,000 bbls Sackett were sold at 25c; 2,000 bbls at 24½c. Philadelphia delivery very dull, and no outside lots offering.

OIL CITY, January 24.—Market quiet at 88 40 lower road @ 95; upper road $2 20.

TITUSVILLE, January 24.—Market firm and some offering at from $2 10@2 25.

PETROLEUM CENTER, January 22.—Market firm at $2 20.

PHILADELPHIA, January 24.—Market quiet; S. W. 113@24c; crude 9½c; cases 17c. No sales reported.

(By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Line.)

TIDIOUTE, January 24.—Market quiet at $2 70. TARR FARM, January 24.—Market quiet at $2 75. Very little doing.

OIL CITY, January 24.—Market quiet but very firm at 95@98c for strictly fresh ₩ dozen; picked 25@30c.

FEATHERS—Receipts 925 barrels. No change in prices though they are not quotably higher. We quote as follows: Live Geese—Prime Mixed, barrels $2 25; Rising Sun $2 25; Minnesota Island $2 25; Forth's best $2 25; Mills—National, white wheat, $2 00; $2 00; Plain Handle, Northern amber, $2 50; Morning Glory, red amber, $2 00.

GROCERIES—The only change we have to note is in New Orleans molasses, which has advanced from 75@75c per gallon to 75@77c and reported active. Trade is fairly active for the season. We quote:

Sugars—Kingdom yellow 8¾c; Kingdom's extra C 10¾c; H & A yellow, 10c; H & E C 11¼c; H & E extra C 11¾c; Phœnix, yellow C, 11c; Calvert's extra C 12c; Calvert's extra B 12½c; Calvert's A 12¾c; crushed 12¾c; powdered 12¾c; granulated 12¾c; cut loaf 13½c; Demerara 11¾c; New Orleans 10@11c.

Coffees—Rio, choice to prime good 21¾@22¾c; prime 22@23¾c; strictly prime 24@25c; fancy 26@26½c; roasted, loose 25¾c; in packages, 27c.

Syrups—Common, per gal, Crystal 55c; H & E XXX 60c; maple flavored 60@65c; Union 70c; Phœnix 75c; white drips $1 20.

Rice—Carolina 8@8½c; Rangoon 7¾@7¾c.

New Orleans Molasses—Fancy, per gallon, 75@77c; choice, 72@73c; prime, 70@72c.

GRAIN—No receipts at the Grain Elevator yesterday. Receipts in sacks, as follows: Barley 510 sacks; corn 180 sacks; rye 110 sacks; oats 652 sacks. The market is quiet but steady, and the recent cold, late snow storm will, in all probability, cause another forward movement. The blockade in the improvement may not be reasonably looked for for some days to come. Offers of shipments are free, though they are not quotably higher. We quote as follows: Red winter wheat 72@74c; No 2 do 69@70c; No 3 do 67@68c; on track, 68@70c; fine to choice, 65@67c; ear, on track, 60c. Barley 56@61 @1 00.

HAY—Market dull at $25@29 per ton for baled, on track.

HONEY—Sales in a small way at 29@30c ₩ lb.

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THE VERY LATEST.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

The Disaster in the English Channel.

LONDON, January 24.—All the journals express their indignation, in the strongest terms, at the heartless conduct of the captain of the unknown steamer which sunk the Northfleet. The government has offered a reward for the discovery of her name. Sixty survivors of the ill-fated emigrant ship have arrived here.

Information has been received that the steamship which sunk the Northfleet off Dungeness lighthouse, Wednesday night, was a Spanish vessel bound for Cadiz. She is reported to have put into the harbor of Havre with her bows damaged. A large quantity of the wreck and stuff from the Northfleet has come ashore on the Kentish coast, but no bodies have yet been recovered. A subscription, headed by the Lord Mayor of the city, is being formed to receive subscriptions for the rescued passengers who are destitute.

Russian Movement in Central Asia.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 24.—The *Official Gazette*, in an article on the Khivan question, expresses surprise at the attitude assumed by the English press with regard to the Russian movement in Central Asia. The *Gazette* says the negotiations between Russia and Great Britain on this question, have all along been conducted in a friendly spirit on both sides. The object which Russia now has in view is to render peace in Central Asia more secure. It is difficult to settle the boundaries of unknown countries, but encroachment on Afghanistan is meditated by Russia. It is probable there will be an understanding between the two governments at an early day.

The German Emigration Question.

BERLIN, January 24.—In the House of Deputies to-day a question was asked *touching* emigration and the measures *the* government had taken to prevent it. *The* Minister of the Interior replied *that it* was impossible to restrict *emigration, after* granting the right of change of domicile. What was wanted was enlightened and judicious legislation which would make those who now thought of emigrating prefer their country above all others. Emigration could best be counteracted by elevating and improving the condition of the people at home. This was what the government was aiming at by the means it hopes to check the tide of emigration.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

MADRID, January 24.—The Council will soon appoint a new Captain General of Cuba. A thousand men will sail from Cadiz to-day to reinforce the troops in that Island.

PARIS, January 24.—Specie in the Bank of France has decreased 500,000 francs during the past week.

PARIS, January 24.—Gen. Sickles, American Minister to Spain, is expected to arrive in this city in a few days.

BERLIN, January 24.—Mr. Bancroft, United States Minister, has returned to Berlin.

MADRID, January 24.—The committee on the sloop of slavers in Porto Rico has declared in favor of granting the owners an average indemnity of $200 per slave.

LONDON, January 24.—The rinderpest has broken out at Shanghai.

PARIS, January 24.—The *Memorial Diplomatique* states that the Count of Paris has requested an interview with the Count of Chambord.

The Hungarian Industrial Bazaine, before a special court martial, will begin in the latter part of April.

PARIS, January 24.—The *American Register* says the first and second acts of M. Sardon's play, "L'Oncle Sam," are filled with abuse of American women and manners.

LONDON, January 25.—Prince Napoleon will return to Woolwich on Monday.

Buckingham Palace has been placed at the disposal of the Shah of Persia for a residence during his visit to England.

The funeral of Lord Lytton takes place at noon to-day. The remains will be deposited in St. Edmund's Chapel.

A meeting was held last night at the town residence of Baroness Coutts, at which the African slave trade was discussed.

A Paris special telegram to the *Times* says if Greece refuses to put out the question of the Laurium mines to arbitration, France and Italy will withdraw their representatives from Athens.

The Belgian Consul at Dover has informed the authorities that three vessels which ran down the North Fleet was the Pelayo, bound from Antwerp for Havana.

European Markets.

LONDON, January 24.—*Consols for money* 93¾@93⅞. American securities—5-20s of '65, 92¾; of '67, 92¾; 10-40s, 89; new 5s, 89½. Erie Railway 50¾. Refined petroleum 21¾at21¾d. Linseed oil £33 4s@3 8s.

PARIS, January 24.—Rentes 54 francs.

LIVERPOOL, January 24.—Cotton heavy; middling uplands 9¾d; Orleans 9¾d. The sales 8,000 bales; of American 5,000 bales; speculation and export 1,000 bales; sales of cotton shipped from Savannah or Charleston not at 9¼d; receipts during the week 64,000 bales; export 4,000 bales; speculation 5,000 bales; stock of American 96,000 bales; receipts 3,000 bales; stock afloat 38,000 bales; American 265,000 bales. Breadstuffs quiet. Corn 30s 6d. Wheat, average Chicago spring 9s 6d; club 12s 10da1s 12d; red spring 11s 6da12s 4d; winter 12s 10da13s 4d. Mess pork 77s 6da78s 6d. Beef 90s. Short rib middles 37. Lard 38s 9d. Receipts of wheat for the past three days 30,000 quarters; American 15,000 quarters. Receipts of corn for the past three days 22,000 quarters; American 15,000 quarters. Yarns and fabrics at Manchester heavy and depressed in all branches.

ANTWERP, January 24.—Refined petroleum 44¾ francs.

Pork Packing Statistics of the West.

CINCINNATI, January 24.—A second *preliminary* report on the pork packing of the West, was submitted to the Chamber of Commerce to-day by Sidney D. Maxwell, Superintendent. The report was compiled mainly in conformity with a recommendation of George H. Dawes, Chairman of the Committee on Statistics, appointed by the National Pork Packers' Convention. The report embraces a detailed estimate returned from ninety-eight packing points, which comprise nearly all the important packing towns in the West and South, much information having been received since the publication in the past forty-eight hours. These places, up to the date of making their respective reports, had packed 3,965,000 hogs, and the same time estimated yet to be packed at these points from 143,800, making a total of 1,967,154. Last year the same places packed 1,580,283, showing an increase for 1872-3 aggregate over last year of 166,995 hogs or 9½ per cent. Places unheard from packed last year 421,068. The correct increase in these unreported places would make the increase in the whole West, outside of Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis and Louisville, 205,377. The report estimates up to the 22d inst. the aggregate packing of Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis and Louisville at 2,310,000; from the 21st, as compared, 2,560,771 for the whole season last year. The average in relation to weight are not full. Returns with reference to weight are made on 1,145,000 hogs, and show an average increase in weight over last year of 2 5-100 pounds per head. Of sixty-two points reporting on the weight, forty-three are heavier, fourteen about the same, and five are lighter; 692,000 hogs are reported. In regard to lard, it shows an average increase per head, from leaf and trimmings, of 4 1-5 pounds. Of fifty-two reporting on lard, twenty-five are heavier, nineteen about the same, and six lighter.

NEWS SUMMARY

BY TELEGRAPH.

Bill Dennis, colored, convicted of attempting to outrage Mary Thompson in March last, was hung at Newcastle, Delaware, yesterday. He went to the gallows singing a hymn.

The Pacific Mail steamship Alaska is overdue three days at Victoria, and considerable anxiety is felt in consequence.

A family of nine persons were rescued yesterday from Kenn's Island, opposite Havre de Grace, Md., where they had been driven from their home by the flood in the Susquehanna. They were nearly dead from exposure. The damage already caused at that place by the flood will amount to $15,000.

The baggage car of a train on the Grand Trunk Railway, going East from Toronto yesterday morning, caught fire near Grafton, and the English mail matter *en route* to the Canadian steamer was all destroyed. The Canadian mail was saved.

Hon. Mr. Archibald, ex-Governor of Manitoba, is to take a seat in the Dominion Cabinet. Hon. Jas. Howe, present Secretary of State, is to be appointed Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

In the New York Senate, yesterday, a resolution was introduced that the Legislature assent to a reduction of canal tolls to an extent not exceeding fifty per cent, below the rates prescribed by the toll sheet of 1852.

A bill was introduced in the New York Assembly yesterday providing for the removal of all the Police Court Justices of New York, and for the appointment of ten Justices by the Mayor, subject to confirmation of the Superior Court.

The severe snow storm from the west reached Augusta, Maine, about nine o'clock yesterday morning, accompanied by a high wind.

The steamship India from Glasgow, and Persia, from Hamburg, arrived at New York yesterday.

In the New York Constitutional Commission yesterday a report was made fixing the gubernatorial term at three years, requiring the Governor to be ineligible for a second term, providing that twenty years of age, and also elected to each House. It will be necessary to pass bills over the veto, and will be necessary to offered making free schools a amendment was constitutional provision.

The barn of Clinton Roberts, [illegible] Corning three horses, a head of cattle, [illegible] grain. Loss $2,500; no insurance.

A bill was passed in the Kentucky State Senate yesterday to prohibit the sales of liquor on Sunday. A motion to except Louisville was rejected. The bill providing for the erection of a third lunatic asylum and the enlargement of the asylum at Hopkinsville passed the Legislature.

A storm of snow and sleet, with a strong easterly gale, prevailed at Boston last night.

It is stated that Inspector Walling will succeed Kelso as Police Superintendent of New York.

The horse disease is spreading in Nevada, and all the transportation of freight entirely suspended.

Col. McEnery, the fusion Governor of Louisiana, yesterday sent a message to the Legislature, taking the ground that the decision rendered by a majority of the Supreme Court, in the returning board case, does not affect in the least the political question involved.

The persons who were supposed to have been lost in the ice gorge on the river at Evansville, Thursday night, all got safe ashore.

THE OIL REGIONS.

New Strikes in Butler County—Dry Holes in Prospective.

Special Dispatches to the Commercial.

FAIRVIEW, Pa., January 24, 1873.

A new well on the Wilson farm, owned by Messrs. Ralph Ritter & Co., is flowing about one hundred and fifty barrels per day. It will probably prove a good seventy-five barrel well.

GREECE CITY, PA., January 24, 1873.

The Karns well at this place, which was struck on Tuesday, flowing two hundred barrels a day since, was tubed this afternoon and will probably settle down to eighty barrels.

There are about thirty wells going down near here, eighteen of which will be completed within the next sixty days. Probably twenty of the entire number will prove to be dry holes.

PETROLIA CITY, PA., January 24, 1873.

The Wilson well, just above this place, on the James Wilson farm, at which well the fire started that proved so destructive to property two weeks ago, has been started up again and is doing ninety barrels.

There are about thirty wells going down near here, eighteen of which will be completed within the next sixty days. Probably twenty of the entire number will prove to be dry holes.

The Parsons well, the rig of which was burned in the same fire, has been abandoned.

CRIMES.

Car-Hook Murderer Sentenced.

NEW YORK, January 24.—Foster, the car-hook murderer, was to-day sentenced *to be* hung on the 7th of March. In *response* to the question whether he had *anything* to say why sentence should *not* be pronounced, Foster replied: "I did not intend to kill him."

Before *sentence* was pronounced no When the death *sentence* was pronounced, hour was *designated*. The impression *some persons* entertained to the contrary *question* was an error of great importance to the prisoner.

A Murderer Suffers the Penalty of the Law.

DENVER, C. T., January 24.—Theodore Mears was hung in this city to-day, for the murder of George M. Bonacena, near Denver, in August, 1871. Mears has been twice convicted and sentenced, and suffered the penalty of the law after every possible effort had been exhausted by his German fellow countrymen to obtain another trial or commutation of sentence. He exhibited great fortitude, showing no signs of tremor or nervousness. His last words were, "Farewell men, I am going to the other world." He had previously made a full confession.

Murderer Sentenced.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 24.—Chas. A. Russell, for the murder of Jas. Crotly, was to-day sentenced to be hung on the 20th of February next.

Sentence of the Court Martial in the Case of Major Gen. P. Runkle.

LOUISVILLE, January 24.—It has transpired here that the recent court martial in the case of Major Ben. P. Runkle, late Superintendent of the Freedmen's Bureau in Kentucky, charged with fraud against colored soldiers and other similar illegalities, found him guilty and sentenced him to be cashiered, pay and allowances and friendless persons charged with minor offenses; fourth, urging prompt and persistent efforts for the improvement of prisons, especially as to the classification of prisoners and their management. The resolutions were discussed and adopted, with the exception of the last, which was referred for discussion at the adjournment of the morning session.

At the evening session of the Prison Reform Congress the fourth resolution was adopted. A resolution in favor of juvenile reformatories was discussed and adopted. The committee on memorializing Congress was announced. After the usual resolutions, thanks to the press, presiding officers, and others, short addresses were delivered by Dr. Wines, Governor Seymour, and others, and the Congress then adjourned *sine die*.

State Debts.

From several gubernatorial messages lately delivered some curious facts are gleaned regarding the proportionate burden of the debts of various Eastern and Northwestern States. Exclusive of the New England and Southern, the most populous and least populous States, viz.: New York and Nevada, keep the lead in the relative burden of their indebtedness. The net funded debt of the former is $25,380,725, with a population, according to the census of 1870, of 4,382,759 souls, giving a per capita of $5 79 to each individual. Nevada has a debt of $379,246, and a population of 42,491—a per capita of $8 92 being dealt to each inhabitant. Ohio, with her population of 2,665,260 people, has a debt of $16,521,029, and a population of 3,521,769, or $4 69 per head. Ohio, with her 2,665,260 people, has a debt of $16,521,029, or $6 20 for each inhabitant. Wisconsin's debt is $2,252,057, and her population 1,054,670—$2 10 apiece. Michigan has a debt of $1,764,292 which would require $3 85 apiece for her 1,184,059 inhabitants to settle it. Indiana owes about $4,000,000, representing a *per capita* burden of $2 34. In strong contrast with these comparatively low figures, are Iowa, entirely free from debt and Illinois, with none worth speaking.

DAILY REPORT

OF THE STAGE OF WATER, WITH CHANGES IN THE 24 HOURS, ENDING 3 P. M., JANUARY 24, 1873.

	Above Low Water.		Rise.		Fall.	
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
St. Paul	0	0	0	0	0	6
Fort Benton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Omaha	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davenport	4	8	0	0	0	0
Leavenworth	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cairo	19	3	1	1	0	2
St. Louis	8	10	0	0	0	1
Pittsburgh	3	1	0	0	0	2
Cincinnati	28	5	0	0	0	1
Louisville	10	9	0	0	0	1
Memphis	12	5	0	0	0	6
Vicksburg	37	2	0	0	0	2
Shreveport	8	11	0	2	0	0
Nashville	10	5	1	0	0	0
New Orleans	12	1	0	0	0	4

*Gorged.
*Below high water mark.

W. E. SMITH,
Observer Sig. Ser. U. S. Army.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, O., January 24.—River twenty-eight feet and falling. Arrived—Charles Bodman and Charles B. Church, New Orleans; Andy Baum, Memphis; Exchange, Pittsburgh. Cloudy and cold.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, KY., January 24.—River falling slowly with ten feet eight inches in the canal, and eight feet eight inches in the chute. Cloudy and cold. Mercury ranged from 15 to 20 and falling this evening. Southern freights are abundant. No boats in for arrivals.—Pickett and barges, Pittsburgh. Departed—Tigress, Pittsburgh. The following boats are preparing to leave, and will probably go within a few days: Jno. A. Wood, Joe. P. Bigley, Anx. New Orleans; Charley Mc-Donald, Memphis and New Orleans; Grand Lake, Red river and Bayou Sara; Smoky City, Arkansas river; City of Natchez, Simpson Hornet, Vicksburg and New Orleans; S. J. Bigley, Memphis; Dick Fulton No. 3, Natchez and New Orleans; J. S. McDonald, Baton Rouge and New Orleans; Wm. Cowan, Cairo. The following have departed: John Gilmore, Cumberland river; Oakland, New Orleans. The Cowan took her over the falls to-day; the N. J. Bigley put her light boats over the falls and the heaviest through the canal; the Smoky City got her tow in the canal; the Grand Lake put part of her tow in the canal and the rest over the fall s; the Sam Parker is putting a tow in the canal for Hornet & Sons.

Cairo.

CAIRO, ILL., January 24.—Arrived—Peytonia, New Orleans; Charter, Memphis; Quickstep, Evansville; Fannie Lewis, Memphis; Quickstep, Evansville; City of Vicksburg, Vicksburg. The river has risen fourteen inches. Clear; mercury twenty.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, January 24.—Arrived—Forsythe, Carroll, Lady Lee and Glasgow, New Orleans. Departed—Great Republic, New Orleans; Grand Tower, Memphis; Colorado, Vicksburg; Lady Gay, Shreveport. The river is falling. Weather cold and freezing hard. Business brisk, with freights at full rates. The Republic left with 1,400 tons of freight and drawing only seven feet.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, January 24.—River rising, with seven and a half feet on Harpeth shoals. Weather cold, with a slight snow fall.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, TENN., January 24.—Cloudy, and high winds all night. River falling slowly. Reports about stationary. Arrived—Potomac, Cincinnati. Departed—Emma, Arkansas river; Jno. Wood, New Orleans; Pat. Cleburne, White river; J. D. Parker, Cincinnati; R. W. Shillinger, for Red river, passed down yesterday, and not the Shermans, as reported.

Vicksburg.

VICKSBURG, MISS., January 24.—Down—Indiana and R. E. Lee, Up—Thompson Dean, Schmidt and John B. Maude. Clear and cold. River rising.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., January 24.—No arrivals. Departed—Warwick, Pittsburgh; Ashland, [illegible]. Clear and cold.

New Comparative Cotton Statement.

Comparative cotton statement to date:

Net receipts at United States for week	133,778
Same time last year	120,713
Total for year	2,190,951
Last year	2,139,951
Exports of week	1,848,405
Same time last year	68,161
Total for year	78,947
Last year	1,102,509
Stock at all United States ports	994,763
Last year	951,608
At interior towns	343,878
Last year	351,357
At Liverpool	46,500
Last year	491,000
American, afloat for Great Britain	225,000
Last year	197,000

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, January 24.—The stock market was badly interfered with to-day by the great storm of yesterday, which kept back trains on all the roads; receipts cannot be given. Cattle—Very little doing in the city, but choice are purchased sparingly; stock steers active and nominal at $2 75a4 00; choice beeves $5 25a5 50. Hogs active to the extent of the supply, and prices firm; extreme range $3 90a4 10; bulk of sales at $3 95a4 10; all sold, and market closed strong.

CITY MATTERS.

Letters Held for Postage.

PITTSBURGH, PA., January 24, 1873.

	Cents
Birch, Jno., Claysville, Pa	3
Little & Gay, Boston, Mass	3
Pendergast, M., Philadelphia, Pa	3

JOHN H. STEWART, P. M.

The Coopers.

The coopers of this vicinity will hold an adjourned meeting on Monday evening next at Lutz & Walz hall, at the head of Chestnut street, Allegheny. The object of the meeting is to hear reports from those who have been circulating the petitions to be forwarded to the Legislature, requesting that body to pass an act prohibiting the manufacture of barrels at the workhouse. So far as ascertained, about four thousand signatures have already been obtained to the several petitions in Allegheny alone. The coopers are confident they will succeed in their efforts without much difficulty. The draft of the act with the petition will be forwarded at an early date.

City Property.

Last night the Committee on City Property held an adjourned meeting in the office of Clerk Morrow, Colonel Phillips in the chair.

The following sub-committees were appointed to take charge of the several station houses for the coming year:

Central Station House—John R. McCune, Wm. B. Hunter, Samuel Morrow.

Eleventh and Twelfth ward Station Houses—Charles P. Duff, R. R. Wilson, Evan Jones.

Fourth and Seventh ward Station Houses—Thomas Liggett and Samuel Cameron, Wm. Sewell.

Third ward Station House—J. B. Murray, L. F. Avery.

Side Station Houses, above Suspension bridge—M. Boyle, Thomas Mills, S. Magee.

Below Bridge—F. Dorrington, J. W. Kerr.

The gentleman signed on the above committees to be Chairman thereof.

No other business was transacted.

A Mystery Solved.

A doctor residing in Baltimore has made a startling revelation to the police. He has, according to his own statement, been engaged for two years in investigating the cause of the numerous mysterious burglaries and murders in Baltimore, and has at last solved the mystery. A new compound, he says, known as Xylol, is mixed with the feathers in the pillow upon which the intended victim is to rest his or her head, and when the warmth of the head penetrates the pillow the compound emits a stupefying vapor which causes apoxey death, and gives the operator ample opportunity to plunder and make way with the body. This is a very important discovery, and the thousands who live in nightly dread of burglars in this community will thank the Baltimore Doctor for his interesting and successful search. Those who use "downy pillows" (and who does not?) can apply their own remedy, so as to prevent the taking of the compound Xylol with the feathers. They can lock their pillows up through the day, or pitch them in a bonfire, warming the fire before they go to bed; or they can have them covered with air tight gum slips, or cheat the burglars by putting the pillows under the mattress, so that the heat of the head cannot reach them. Other means of defeating the compounding may suggest themselves—but look to your pillows! Beware of Xylol!

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS

Pittsburgh Opera House.

The much controversially advertised drama, "One Wife," which was to be delightedly witnessed by two teeming audiences, is given for the last time at the afternoon performance to-day. In the evening "East Lynne" will be played. The battle of Corinth, the many affecting and pleasant popularity of Charlotte Thompson, and has not diminished one particle the personal estimation in which she is held by the public.

Alms's American Theater.

Enumeration of the vast array of items of attraction at Prof. Alms's admirable place of entertainment cannot be attempted. Space forbids. The programme is a wonderful one, and will be presented both afternoon and evening.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The bill at Trimble's is also too long to admit of any kind of abstract. It is excellent of its kind, and, in some instances, is marked by attractions of irresistible fascination. Saturday matinee as usual.

Robinson's Minstrels.

This famous band of representatives of the cork opera—with their "silver trumpets and six 'end men'"—has arrived safely this morning and performs two nights at the Academy of Music.

BURGLARS IN LIMBO.

Consolation for the East End—Recovery of Stolen Goods.

Yesterday the telegraph brought the news of the arrest of Andy Birdell and Robert Thomas, at Buffalo, on charges of burglary. The telegram also referred to some jewelry and watches found in possession of the prisoners, which corresponded with particular articles recently stolen in this vicinity. Mayor Blackmore made use of the wires during yesterday afternoon, and thereby learned that among the articles recovered were two watches, one the property of John A. Barton, Esq., and the other that of Mr. D. A. Stewart, residents in the East End. Information to that effect was made in part to Chief of Police Irwin and Detective Joseph Cupples by Mr. Barton, who left for Buffalo last night for the valuables and securing possession of the prisoners. Birdall is supposed to be a notorious character who has been in the penitentiary, and is suspected "professional" business. He has always been known here as Birdell—or more generally as "Andy Jack." If there is not a railroad accident or some other calamity, to interfere with the safe transportation of the two defendants, it is probable he will get an opportunity to rise an explain, in our criminal court, why they should not take position in the Western Penitentiary for a series of years.

A SINGULAR STORY.

A Missing Man Turned Up.

The mysterious disappearance of Capt. Mc Daniels, of Canonsburg, Washington county, will be recollected by many of our readers. He left home several months ago with the intention of purchasing goods in New York, having taken with him several thousand dollars for that purpose. His family never heard from him, and after waiting a reasonable time, some of them went East in search of him, but the only reliable information they could get was, that he had been seen by a friend on a ferry boat on the day of his arrival in New York. Two theories were advanced in explanation of his disappearance—one that he had fled to escape pecuniary embarrassment, and the other that he had been foully murdered. And now for the sequel. It is stated that Dr. Cook, an intimate friend of the late Judge Wilkins, of Cannonsburg, has received a letter from him, dated at New Orleans, in which he details his arrival in New York he was waylaid, robbed, abducted and carried on a vessel to Cuba, where he remained for several months, an opportunity offering at last escaped on a vessel bound for New Orleans, where he now is, still being detained by the villains in the interest of the robbers. He requests a gentleman of this city, who had a portion of the letter read to him.

BURNS'S ANNIVERSARY.

Grand Celebration Last Night at Lafayette Hall—Speeches, Songs, &c.—Grand Supper and Ball.

The one hundred and fourteenth anniversary of the birth of the poet Burns was appropriately celebrated last evening at Lafayette Hall. This anniversary, judging from the many cities and boroughs which celebrated it in the United States, has become we general that a Scotchman scarcely knows whether he is in this country or in the "land o' cakes."

The gathering last night was the most successful ever held in this city, no less than four to five hundred of the sons and daughters of auld Scotia—with a liberal sprinkling of their American friends—being in attendance.

The jury that if they believed, from all the evidence in the case, that Mc-Clurkan induced McClurkan to carry out the plan of compelling defendants, who were accommodation endorsers, to pay, and that the discounting of the notes was a sham, plaintiff could not recover. Also, that the burden of showing all these facts as to the validity of the paper, was on the defendants.

The jury retired, and in about an hour and a half returned a verdict in favor of defendants.

The case was ably tried by Messrs. Marshall, Acheson and Barton for plaintiffs, and Messrs. Shiras, Woods, Hampton and D. T. Watson, for defendants.

Similar suits are now pending against Messrs. Lockhart, Frew & Co.

CITY FINANCES.

Appropriations for 1873—The Millage, &c., &c.

The members constituting the new Finance Committee of Councils met and expended the whole forenoon of two days in arriving at the amount necessary to carry on the machinery of the municipal government and the necessary city improvements during the coming fiscal year, commencing February 1st. The worthy Chairman, Colonel William Phillips, a financier of unusual ability, together with the other gentlemen of the committee, have paid every attention to the duties they have had before them, and from what little has been made public of the action of the committee, the appropriation ordinance which will be submitted to Councils on Monday will be found a carefully digested document, and capable of very little, if any, improvement. The matter of increasing the business tax from one and a quarter mills to one and a half mills was warmly debated in the committee. Several members held that to increase the millage would have the effect in time to drive business, and with it capital, from our city. The majority favored the idea of allowing the tax to remain at the old millage, and maintained that it would be more justifiable to increase the tax on real estate. This latter idea prevailed in the committee, so that it is not improbable that when the ordinance is read in Councils it will be found that the millage on the valuation will be twelve and one quarter mills in the old city and eight and one-quarter in the rural districts.

The other taxes will be about as follows: On yearly retail sales of liquors, twelve mills; on commissions of brokers, commission merchants, etc., twelve mills; on yearly business of banks and bankers, one mill, and on yearly receipts of insurance and telegraph companies, two and a half mills; on articles of luxury, including the amount which the department of health and police derived from the same during the past year, and on billiard tables and ten pin alleys, ten mills.

Of the appropriations, the Street Committee will be allotted $110,000, although the members made a strong fight for a larger sum. This department had but $50,000 to work on last year, and the sum ran far behind the amount needed that private paper had to be negotiated to pay the salaries of the men in the employ of the department. With the improvements to be made on the thoroughfares in the South Side, the probable paving with wood of Penn street from the "Point" to its junction with Butler street, and other equally important measures air ady on foot, the sum mentioned will not prove too much over paying the amount which the department is in debt for last year. The sum allotted to "No. 2," salaries, which last year was $26,000, will be increased to about $26,650, which amount will probably be asked. This appropriation can easily be afforded it, now that the salaries of the city officials have been fixed. They are as follows:

Mayor	$ 750
City Attorney	5,000
Controller	2,500
Treasurer	2,000
Mayor's clerk	2,000
Assistant Controller	2,000
City Assessor	2,200
City Clerk	2,000
Assistant Inspector	2,000
Messenger of Councils	1,000
Pages of Councils	300
Clerk of Common Council	500
Treasurer's clerks	5,400
Total	$26,650

The others of the city officials are paid out of the appropriations to the several departments, as follows:

City Engineer	$ 4,000
Assistant Engineer	1,500
Chief of Police	1,500
Assistant Clerks	1,200
Six Street Commissioners	7,200
Three Superintendents of Markets	1,800
Three Wharfmasters	3,000
Superintendent of Water Works	2,000
Water Assessor and Assistant	2,700
Three Road Commissioners	3,600
Fire Alarm Telegraph, about	3,000
Total	$39,700
Paid from "No. 2"	26,600
Total salaries	$59,350

Some of the salaries given may be changed in Councils, but the deviation from the rates given will not be much.

THE APPROPRIATIONS.

The more important of the appropriations will doubtless be as follows:

Streets	$110,000
Roads	30,000
Police	38,000
Salaries	26,650
Board of Revision	10,000
Fire Department	290,000
Surveys	15,000

As far as we can compute at present, the total sum necessary for carrying on the affairs of our city during the fiscal year will be about $1,097,000, which sum, although it may appear large, will most likely run short before the year is out.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

John S. Munday, bankrupt, of Lycoming county, presented his petition for discharge, and an order was made for the first examination and second and third meetings of creditors.

A rule to show cause why the Germania Savings Bank of this city should not proceed on its mortgage in the State Courts against the property of P. Featherston, of Allegheny City, now bankrupt, was argued for the rule by Mr. Guthrie for the Kennedy contra. The rule was discharged by the Court.

An order was made for the payment to Phelzer Bleakley, creditors of John Putnam, of Butler, of the sum of $51 37, deposited to secure the claim of said creditors.

In the matter of Seth M. Payne, of Bradford county, against whom a petition of adjudication in bankruptcy was filed by Austin Mitchell, the proceedings were discontinued.

United States Quarter Sessions—Judge Stowe.

Annie Miller plead guilty to the larceny of twenty dollars from Sarah Dawson.

M. O'Leary, charged with felonious assault and battery on Thomas Henderson, plead guilty to misdemeanor in malawfully assaulting.

John Hamilton, charged with assault and battery, was acquitted.

In the case of Joseph Dippold and Henry Parks, charged with assault and battery, a *nol. pros.* was allowed.

John Snee, charged with perjury in swearing that S. J. Heath had stolen two horses from him, was acquitted, and ordered to pay costs.

O. Beisel, charged with felonious assault and battery, was acquitted.

Charles and Andrew Smith were tried on a charge of larceny. Jury out.

TRIAL LIST FOR MONDAY.

Commonwealth vs.

M. O'Leary,	William Burke,
Wm. Boyd,	Thomas McConlon,
R. Hildebrand, et al,	W. Burke,
John Corrill,	Geo. Gaurket,
Mart. Gaimartin,	C. Hyna.

Common Pleas—Judge Sterrett.

The case of McClurkan *vs.* Byers was submitted to the jury, and a verdict rendered for defendants. The case is reported in another column.

The next case taken up was that of Oscar Wright *vs.* Christopher Hoge, guardian of Frazier, and Alfred A. Wright. This was an action to recover for the unpleasantness the children had from 1856 to the time the suit was brought. A verdict for plaintiff for the amount claimed, about $12,000, was rendered by the jury.

District Court—Judge Kirkpatrick.

The arguments in the case of Kate Caldwell *vs.* the Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Co. were concluded. The Court deferred the charge to the jury until Monday.

The case of Anderson, Maxwell & Co. *vs.* the Bismarck Coal Company, was taken up. This was an action to recover the value of an engine sold to the company defendant. On trial.

THE ALDERMANIC OFFICE.

What Constitutes a Vacancy?

John Floyd, an alderman of the Second ward, left the city more than a year ago, under circumstances which render his return improbable. Report says he has since been, and is still, in Cincinnati. As he could be of no service to the people of the ward, while he was hundred miles away, they regarded the office as vacant, and last December elected Mr. John Black to fill the vacancy. Mr. Black received his commission from the Governor, and is now in the discharge of his duties. A few citizens of the ward, however, holding that there was no legal vacancy, have signed an application calling upon the Attorney General to suggest a writ of quo warranto, calling Mr. Black before the Court to answer by what authority he holds the office. Should the writ be granted several questions will arise. Does voluntary abandonment of the office create a vacancy? If Mr. Floyd should return, could he hold the office for his unexpired term? The Constitution does not expressly provide for a case such as this, but the Act of June 21, 1839, p. p., vides that where a vacancy occurs in the office of justice of the peace, "by neglect or refusal of the person elected to accept his commission within six months after the date thereof, or by death, resignation or otherwise such vacancy shall be supplied at the next election," etc. Under this act, a refusal to accept a commission within the period of six months after its date, ecures a vacancy; and it would seem that the abandonment of the office for a whole year would be one of the ways of creating a vacancy included in the phrase "or otherwise." This was not a vacancy by refusal to take out a commission, or by death, or by resignation, but otherwise—by a notorious abandonment. This seems to be a reasonable view, at all events, and it is not likely that Mr. Black will be disturbed.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.

A Boy Caught and Dragged Through the Rolls of a Mill on the South Side.

A lad named James Welch, aged eleven years, employed as a helper at a set of rolls in Painter & Sons's mill in West Pittsburgh, met with a fatal accident yesterday afternoon. About three o'clock, when his turn at the roll was over, the roll was stopped in order to have it changed. But before it had entirely stopped, however, the lad, who was in a hurry to get through, attempted to take off the boxes, but unfortunately, his pants was caught in the machinery, and he was dragged between the rolls. The pressure between the rolls was about five inches, and the body of course was horribly crushed, causing instant death.

The Coroner held an inquest over the remains, and a verdict of accidental death was returned. The father of the deceased was also employed in the mill, and he was his only son.

Mrs. Bly's Lecture Last Night.

Last night, a debutante in the lecture field, Mrs. Jane Shane Bly, entertained one of the most fashionable and intelligent audiences that ever assembled in Liberty Hall. The lady's subject was "Whims," a novel one, and in the hands of the lecturess one of the most pleasing, instructive and interesting we have ever listened to. It is regretted that space will not permit us this morning to refer to the lecturer in such a manner as it fully deserves. Suffice it to say that Mrs. Bly not only spoke with the ease and grace of a professional, but in the dramatic portions of the lecture held her audience spell bound, only in a succeeding paragraph to completely charm them with laughter. The lady's power of mimicry is wonderful, while her knowledge of dialects is surprising. We can perfectly safe in asserting that a more thoroughly enjoyable lecture has not been delivered in this city this season. Professionally the B. T. K. S. Society deserve great credit for securing the services of Mrs. Bly, and we doubt not that in time to come, when the debutante of last night has earned the name and fame to which she is justly entitled, she will look back with pleasure to the occasion of her initial effort in Liberty Hall.

The Bridge Committee.

Yesterday afternoon the new Committee on Bridges met in City Clerk Morrow's office. An organization was effected by electing Mr. Wm. McCowan permanent Chairman.

Mr. B. C. Sawyer appeared before the committee and read the draft of an act of Assembly providing for the creation of a Board of Commissioners, who should have power to issue bonds for the purpose of buying up turnpike roads and bridges, and also to levy a tax not exceeding ten mills on the county valuation, for the maintenance of the same, free of all tolls.

The committee was asked to approve the bill, but deferred action for the present.

Coming Lecturers.

The next lecture of the Young Men's Mercantile Library course will take place at Library hall, on next Tuesday evening, when Lillian S. Edgerton will discourse on the subject, "Woman is Coming." The lady and the lecture is highly spoken of in our exchanges. On Thursday evening next our Scotch fellow citizens will have an opportunity of hearing Geo. MacDonald on his new subject, "Tom Hood"—certainly a fruitful topic.

The *United Presbyterian* states that the new Book of Psalms is having a rapid sale, and is fast coming into use.

Mother and Babe.

Yesterday Mr. Menough, the gentleman from Brady's Bend whose wife jumped from the Hand street bridge, visited the Union Depot and there identified a basket as belonging to his wife. In the basket was some clothing which Mr. Menough stated belonged to his infant child. The mother had taken the babe with her when she left home and it is supposed that the little one is now in a watery grave with its unfortunate mother.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE sleighing is improving.

COUNCIL committees continue to organize.

THE Mexican Veterans meet this evening in the Grey's armory to further continue their efforts in support of the bounty bill now pending at Washington.

THE REV. S. G. FITZGERALD will preach for the Wylie avenue church to-morrow evening, in the hall of the Eleventh ward public school house, at 7½ o'clock.

A MEETING of the Republican Executive Committee of Allegheny will be held on Monday evening. When an organization for the ensuing county campaign will be effected.

THE GAS Committee of Councils met yesterday and elected Mr. John Shipton Chairman. A sub-committee was appointed to attend to the business of the committee on the South Side.

A LABORER employed in the glass works of Messrs. Campbell, Jones & Co., on the South Side, while at work yesterday, had his arm broken, and also received severe injuries on his head. A physician was summoned, who dressed his wounds, and reduced the fractures.

THE RESIDENCE of Mr. T. C. Lazear, Frankstown Avenue, East End, is to be added to the list of those recently visited by burglariously inclined young men. After trying all the windows and doors they failed to effect an entrance,